Hafa Adai!

Manibusan retains AG seat; 2 judges, justice are retained. PAGE 3
$10K bail set for man accused of violating restraining order. PAGE 7

$1

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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BASED ON CEC'S UNOFFICIAL TABULATION RESULTS

Torres-Sablan wins; to face Palacios-Apatang in runoff

Commonwealth Election Commission board chair Jesus I. Sablan, seated left, explains something as CEC executive director Kayla S. Igitol and CEC commissioner Jonathan Christopher A. Manglona listen during the tabulation of ballots at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe Tuesday night.

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and his running mate, Sen. Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan (R-Saipan), won the Nov. 8, 2022 general elections, but failed to gain a majority share of the votes, paving the way for a runoff race against Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and his running mate, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, based on the unofficial results of a long and arduous nine-hour tabulation process conducted by the Commonwealth Election Commission at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

See TORRES on Page 4

Office of the Public Auditor investigator Edward Cabrera forcibly opens one of the two padlocks of a ballot box that contains 139 early voting votes from the Northern Islands during the tabulation of votes in the Nov. 8 general elections at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe Wednesday early morning. Also in the photo are Commonwealth Election Commission board chair Jesus I. Sablan, extreme left, CEC executive director Kayla S. Igitol and CEC commissioner Jesus Cepeda.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Sablan-Staffler endorses Palacios-Apatang for runoff

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

The Democratic Party's gubernatorial bet, Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan), and her running mate, Rep. Leila Fleming Staffer (D-Saipan), immediately conceded yesterday and endorsed the independent team of Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and his running mate, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang for the runoff election.

In a press conference at the Democratic Party's headquarters on Middle Road yesterday afternoon, Sablan

See SABLAN on Page 4

Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan), left, and Rep. Leila Fleming Staffer (D-Saipan), concede and endorse the candidacies of Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang during a press conference at the Democratic Party headquarters on Middle Road yesterday afternoon.

LEIGH GASES

'We're going to be ready for runoff'

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gubernatorial candidate Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and his running mate, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, are set to face off against incumbent Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and his running mate Sen. Vinnie Sablan (R-Saipan) in a runoff election in the weeks to come. Apatang assured yesterday

See RUNOFF on Page 1

INSIDE

LOCAL
Hundreds of volunteers plant more than 1,500 native trees for Bank of Hawai'i's Service Day.

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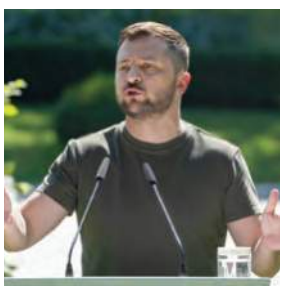

WORLD
Ukraine's president says he's open to peace talks with Russia, softening his refusal to do so.

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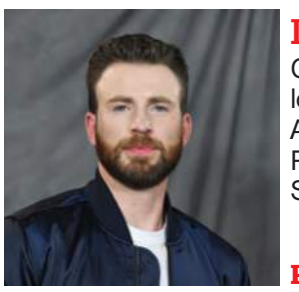

LIFE & STYLE
Chris Evans is no longer just Captain America; he's also People magazine's Sexiest Man Alive.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

Child care providers undergo training on child safety

Child care providers from three centers on Saipan attended last Nov. 5, 2022, two sessions on required health and safety training at the Evergreen Learning Training Center, Chalan Kanoa.

Nine participants in the morning session and 1 in the afternoon session participated in the trainings, which covered the topics of "Precaution in Transporting Children" and "Building & Physical Premises Safety" (including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injuries such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic).

The trainings, which were conducted by Evergreen Learning's quality care specialist Maricar I. Pena, were made possible through funding from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child Care, CNMI CCDF program under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

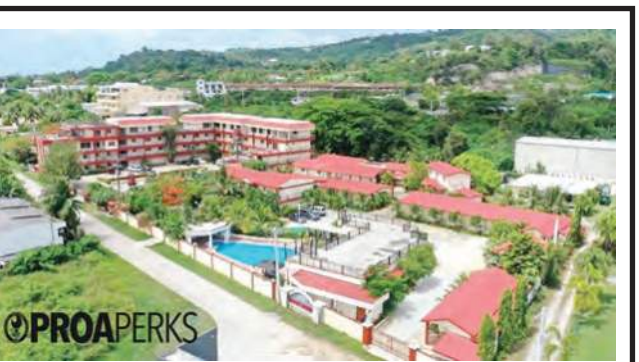
During the session on "Precautions in Transporting Children," participants explored ways to protect children from hazards in and around vehicles. Participants also learned about child seat safety.

While attending the afternoon session on "Building and Physical Premises Safety," participants learned to identify potential hazards in childcare facilities and premises and ways to address them. They learned about active supervision and strategies for ensuring children's safety.

The Child Care Reauthorization Act of 2014 requires that all child care providers certified by the Child Care and Development Fund Program must complete preservice training requirements in 12 health and safety topic areas before they are allowed to be left alone to supervise young children. The two topics covered by this training meet two out of the 12 required training. ***(PR)***

Child care providers attend a Precaution in Transporting Children and Building & Physical Premises Safety Trainings last Nov. 5, 2022, at the Evergreen Learning Training Center, Chalan Kanoa.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



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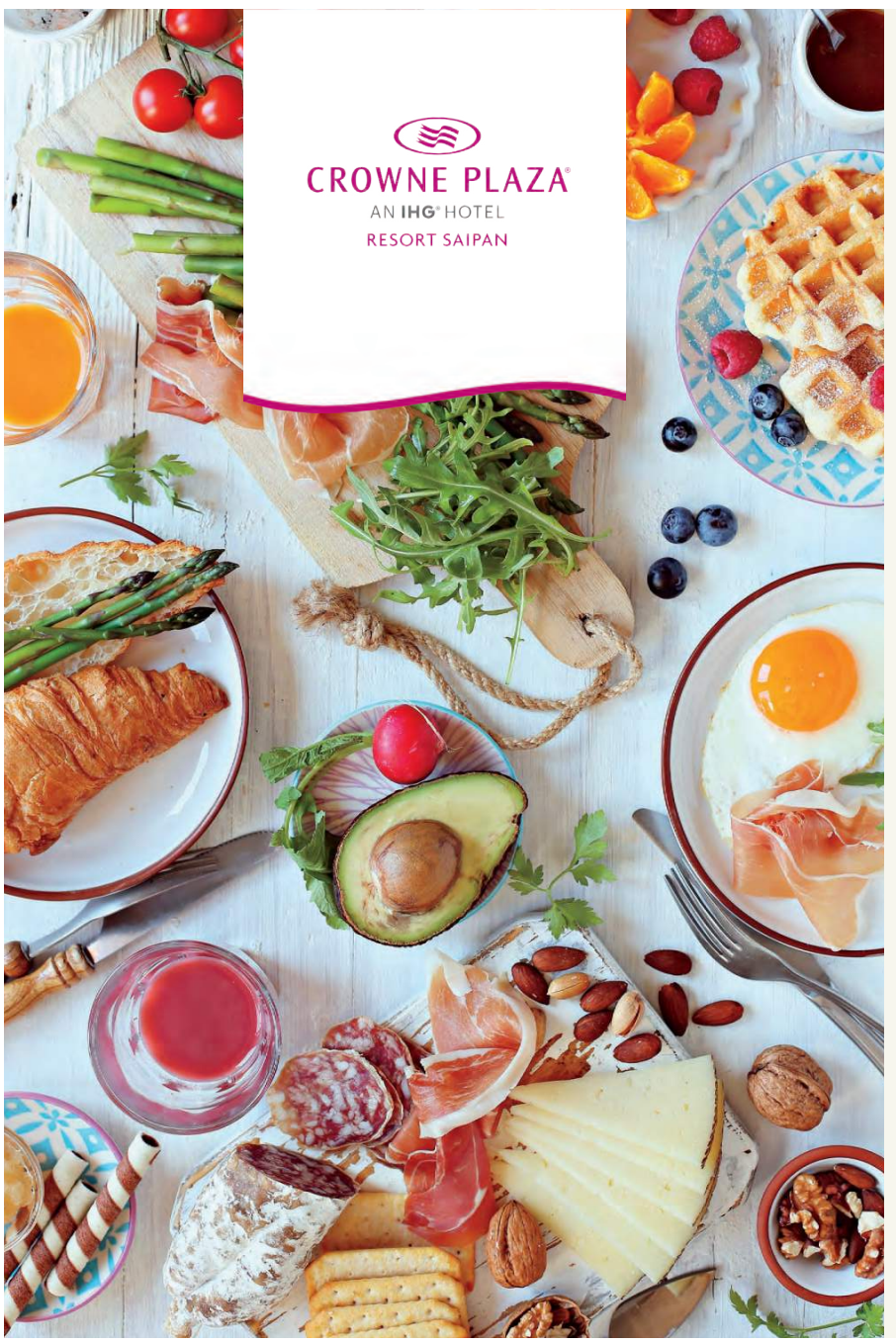
NMC

Beach Garden Hotel & Apartments now a ProaPerks partner

Beach Garden Hotel & Apartment is the latest to sign on as a Northern Marianas College ProaPerks partner, joining many other businesses and organizations. All card-carrying members of the NMC ProaPerks program can now receive a 5% discount on hotel room rates.

Companies and other interested organizations that would like to become part of the ProaPerks program and take advantage of the buying power of thousands of individuals that include NMC alumni, students, and employees, can find more information by emailing proaperks@marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***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Manibusan retains AG seat; 2 judges, justice are retained

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Attorney General Edward E. Manibusan gets to keep his title a while longer after a closely contested fight between him and his opponent, former associate judge Juan T. Lizama.

Manibusan

Following the tallying of ballots for the 2022 general election, the unofficial tabulation results show that Manibusan will remain as the CNMI's attorney general for the next four years.

Manibusan held a consistent, significant lead against his opponent among all the precinct votes.

Manglona

According to the unofficial results, Manibusan managed to gain over 55% of the votes cast in this election for the AG position. while Tudela bagged roughly 45% of the votes. Manibusan secured his win following the tabulation of early voting ballots, which had a total of 3,380 votes. Lizama, on the other hand, gained 2,958 votes from early voting.

Camacho

On Election Day itself, Manibusan gained the support of many last-minute voters, with 3,370 individuals voting in favor of keeping him as the CNMI attorney general. Meanwhile, Lizama earned 2,535 votes.

Finally, based on the absentee ballots, Manibusan earned 772 voters while his opponent earned just 620.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain a comment from Manibusan yesterday, but e has yet to issue a public statement as of press time.

Bogdan

In related news, CNMI voters voted in favor of retaining the two CNMI judges and one justice who are up for retention election: Justice John Manglona, associate judge Joseph Camacho, and associate judge Wesley Bogdan.

According to the tabulated results, Manglona gained 82% of votes in favor of his retention. This is equal to about 11,013 who voted in favor of his retention. Of the over 11,000 votes, 5,090 came from early voting ballots, 4,716 came from Election Day voters, while 1,207 were absentee voters.

Meanwhile, Camacho also won 75% of the votes in favor of his retention. Based on the unofficial results, Camacho gained a total of 10,179 votes in favor of his retention.

In a comment from Cama-

See MANIBUSAN on Next Page

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STOCK #	YEAR	MODEL	KBB	SALE PRICE
10P468B	2020	MAZDA CX-3 SPORT	$24,049	$19,995
20R292	2020	HYUNDAI ELANTRA SPORT	$24,274	$19,995
18HS985B	2019	HONDA ACCORD SPORT	$31,170	$29,995
22H195A	2016	MAZDA6 GT	$18,363	$17,995
21H047A	2018	HYUNDAI KONA SPORT	$19,995	$16,995
16P435	2016	MAZDA CX-5 TOURING	$23,370	$19,995
14P342B	2016	TOYOTA COROLLA LE	$18,277	$16,995
17P370	2017	TOYOTA COROLLA SE	$20,726	$16,995
16P487A	2017	KIA SPORTAGE LX	$19,269	$15,995
18P416	2018	TOYOTA RAV4 LE SPORT	$31,648	$24,995

STOCK #	YEAR	MODEL	KBB	SALE PRICE
15P498	2015	SCION FRS COUPE	$22,405	$26,995
22H183A	2011	FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE	$15,475	$8,995
21H068A	2016	HONDA CIVIC SEDAN	$14,455	$18,995
~~16P374~~	~~2016~~	~~HYUNDAI GENESIS~~ SOLD	~~$23,203~~	~~$19,995~~
16P467	2015	TOYOTA RAV4 LE	$25,989	$22,995
18P504	2018	TOYOTA 4RUNNER LIMITED	$45,875	$42,995
17HS1036	2017	FORD MUSTANG CONV.	N/A	$24,995
17P496	2017	MITSUBISHI LANCER ES	N/A	$21,995
16P446	2016	MAZDA3 SPORT	$18,937	$17,995
18R289	2018	FORD F150 PICK UP TRUCK	$29,854	$24,995

2018 HONDA CIVIC SEDAN EX
SALE PRICE $21,995
• MILES: 30,119 • KBB: $25,840 • STK: 22M032A
2017 KIA SEDONA LX
SALE PRICE $24,995
• MILES: 33,001 • KBB: $31,257 • STK: 17P482
2013 HONDA ACCORD EX
SALE PRICE $12,995
• MILES: 45,733 • KBB: $18,869 • STK: 22H129A
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TORRES

From Page 1

The Torres-Sablan tandem of the Republican Party defeated the Palacios-Apatang unified independent team with a convincing 836 lead margin.

Torres-Palacios obtained 3,007 votes from early voting, 2,149 from Election Day voters, and 570 from absentee voters, for a total of 5,726 votes, or 38.83% of the total votes cast.

As of press time last night, *Saipan Tribune* was still waiting for comments from Torres.

CEC started the tabulation process after the arrival of ballots from polling places at the multi-purpose center beginning Tuesday past 7pm. CEC executive director Kayla S. Igitol announced Wednesday at 3:30pm the results of the last tabulated votes from the absentee voters.

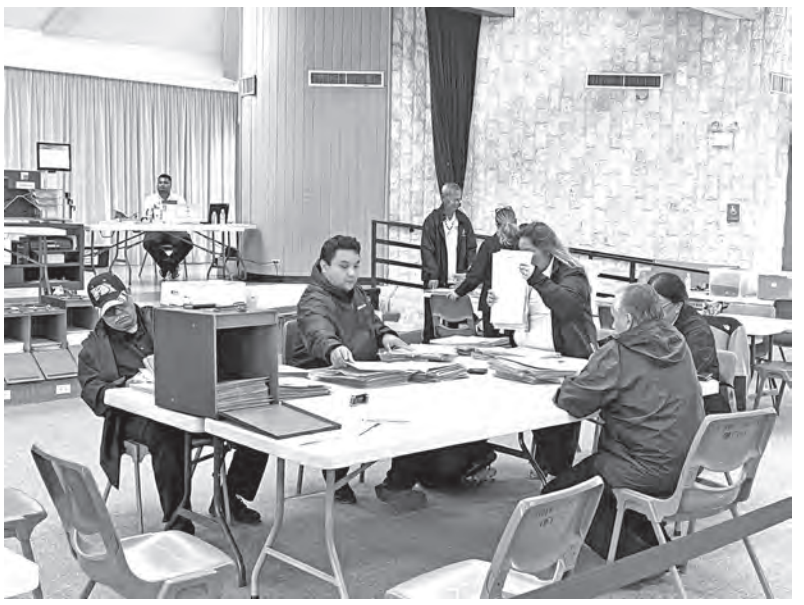
CEC board chair Jesus I. Sablan, in an interview shortly after Igitol's last announcement, said they would not certify the unofficial tabulation results that day (Wednesday) as they need to rest in order to have fresh minds in looking into the results.

Sablan did not indicate when they are going to hold a runoff election.

The CEC will hold a runoff election if no gubernatorial candidate gets more than 50%—or more than half—of the total votes cast and counted.

Palacios-Apatang received 2,129 from early voting, 2,204 from Election Day voters, and 557 from absentee voters, for a total of 4,890 votes, or 33.16% of the total votes cast.

Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) and her running mate, Rep. Leila Haveia Staffler (D-Saipan), of the Democratic Party, came in last after obtaining 1,755 from early voting, 1,973 from Election Day voters, and 404 from absentee voters, for a total of 4,132 votes or 28.02% of the total votes cast.



Members of the Commonwealth Election Commission check documents at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center late Tuesday night. KIMBERLY ESMORES

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), who ran unopposed for his eighth term in the U.S. Congress, obtained 5,534 from early voting, 5,481 from Election Day voters, and 1,300 from absentee voters, for a total of 12,315, or 100% of the total votes cast.

Attorney General Edward E. Manibusan was re-elected for his third four-year term after defeating his lone challenger, former Superior Court associate judge Juan T. Lizama, via 7,522-6,113 votes.

For the Senate race, three Republicans, two independents, and one Democrat emerged victorious. This means that the 23rd Senate will be composed of four Republicans, three independents, and two Democrats.

For the Saipan Senate race, Rep. Celina R. Babauta, a Democrat, and Rep. Corina L. Magofna, an independent, prevailed.

Babauta got 5,743 in total votes, while Magofna obtained 5,200 votes.

Rep. Angel A. Demapan, a Republican, came short, with 4,885 in total votes.

For the Tinian Senate contest, Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz and Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider, both Republicans, won over Thomasa Rita P. Mendiola, who came in third.

Cruz received a total of 932 votes, while Hofschneider got 808 in total votes. Mendiola only obtained 421 in total votes.

For the Rota Senate battle, Rep. Donald M. Manglona, an independent, and James C. Mendiola, a Republican, emerged victorious.

Manglona came strong with 905 in total votes, while Mendiola grabbed 748 in total votes.

Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig, a Republican, got only 364 votes to land fourth place in the five-way race.

For the House of Representatives, the incoming House will be composed of 13 independents, four Democrats, and three Republicans.

For Precinct 1, the candidates who made it to the magic six are Rep. Edwin Propst, a Democrat, who got 2,296 votes; Vincent Raymond S. Aldan, an independent, who received 1,800; Rep. Joseph A. Flores, an independent, who obtained 1,771; Roy Christopher A. Ada, a Republican, who got 1,754; Diego Vincent F. Camacho, a Democrat, and Roman C. Benavente, an independent, who received 1,672 votes respectively.

In Precinct 2, Rep. John Paul P. Sablan, an independent, and Manny Gregory T. Castro, got 825 and 760 votes, respectively, to win in the four-way race.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

Police officers unload boxes of early votes from Tinian for counting at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center late Tuesday night. KIMBERLY ESMORES

RUNOFF

From Page 1

that he and his AD team are ready to win this runoff election. AD refers to the two candidate's first names "Arnold-David" and is their name for their team.

Following the tabulation of ballots after the general election last Tuesday, the unofficial results showed that the Palacios-Apatang tandem will vie for the chance at the governor and lieutenant governor positions in a runoff election that is tentatively set for Nov. 25.

A runoff is warranted to determine the next sitting governor when not one gubernatorial pair gains more than 50% of the votes cast in an election.

In a brief statement from Apatang, he said that, although he and Palacios did not expect a runoff, they are ready to do their best to win it.

"We weren't expecting a runoff. We were actually working very hard to avoid a runoff but, unfortunately, I'm not sure what happened, but now that we're here, we will just have to do our best to win this runoff election. We are going to be ready for this runoff," he said.

In addition, Apatang said he wants to thank all those who supported him and his running mate, Palacios, because their faith in their leadership is what drives them to fight for the governor and lieutenant governor positions.

"We were really surprised with the turnout. We just want to say thank you to all our supporters and for believing in us. We're going to be working very hard for this runoff. I just want to ask our supporters to continue to join us and work with us and let us get together and win this runoff," he said.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from Palacios, but was unable to get a response as of press time.

The AD duo will face off with the Torres-Sablan tandem, which received the highest number of votes in the general election. The Torres team got a 38.83 % share of the total votes cast, while the Palacios team got a 33.16% share.

The AD pair gained a total of 4,890 votes, just 836 votes short of the Torres-Sablan duo, which garnered a total of 5,726 votes in total.

Of the 4,890 votes the Palacios Apatang partnership garnered, 2,204 were from Election Day voters, 2,129 came from early voters, and 557 were from absentee ballots.

SABLAN

From Page 1

and Staffler also thanked their supporters and congratulated their opponents "for the success of their respective campaigns as they head into the runoff."

In her concession speech, Sablan said, "Most of the ballots have been counted by now and the writing is on the wall. It is not the outcome that Leila and I hoped for, but it is an outcome we accept."

Sablan said that she and Fleming are asking all of their supporters to vote for Palacios and Apatang in the runoff. "They are the better choice. And they can surely expect that we will hold them to the same standards of honesty, fairness, and accountability that Leila and I hold ourselves to," she added.

The long-awaited Commonwealth Election Commission's unofficial tabulation results of the general elections show that the Palacios-Apatang tandem will be squaring off with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and his running mate, Sen. Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan (R-Saipan), in the runoff.

When asked to elaborate on their decision to endorse Palacios, Sablan said, "We were the ticket running for real change and on a platform of good governance. And now that we are not going to be in the runoff, the better option from our perspective is Arnold Palacios and David Apatang. We have good relationships with the lieutenant governor and with the mayor. I know both of them for a long time, I do have a lot of respect for their service. And what is clear…to Leila and me is that we simply cannot afford another four years with Ralph Torres. So that is the choice that is before us, and the choice that we're asking people to make—all of our supporters to make—is to support Arnold and Dave in the run-off."

In their messages to their supporters, Staffler said they are humbled by the support and proud of the campaign "that we ran and the plans that we made. We are proud to have made history and put more cracks in that glass ceiling for the next woman or women who plan to run for this office..."

"To all of our dear, dear supporters, especially those who couldn't vote yet—the youth of the CNMI—don't lose faith, we cannot lose hope. We cannot lose hope that good governance can exist in the Marianas. It just might take more time to get there. And we need all of you, our whole community, to keep pushing for the change that we want to see. As for me, I'll be here for the long haul, doing whatever that I can do, so that I can leave this place better than I found it," Fleming said.

Sablan thanked their supporters as well: "From the bottom of our hearts, we also thank our incredible team of supporters, volunteers, donors, Democratic Party leaders, and fellow candidates, as well as our families for an amazing campaign. It was clean, issue-driven and spirited. It was fun. It was inspiring. It was historic in many ways. We ran on a platform of good governance. And we did it with love for islands, and a hopeful vision for our future."

She counseled their supporters not to despair. "Don't lose hope. Keep the faith and get out and vote. Beyond the runoff election, and regardless of the results, our Commonwealth needs us all to continue to fight the good fight. Fight the good fight for a future we can be proud of," said Sablan.

Both Sablan and Staffler said their efforts will not end with the election. "Our hearts are here, we will serve out the remainder of our terms as legislators and we thank the people of the Marianas, and especially the people…who have given us the great honor of representing them. We will seek other ways to serve our community after our terms have ended."

As for the prolonged ballot counting that took place, Sablan said that many who have been watching the election very closely have been dismayed by how long it took to get all of the ballots counted.

"And there are still some discrepancies, I think, in the numbers that have been reported, and a lot of confusion about what the final tallies are for each of the candidates. And I don't understand—I really don't understand why—why we still have glitches like this in our election process when we do this every two years."

Sablan believes it is important that the CNMI revisit an issue about the lack of standard operating procedures at the Commonwealth Election Commission.

"I know we bring it up every two years, every time there's an election, and that still hasn't been developed yet. …But part of ensuring the fairness and freedom of an election is also making sure that the information is accurate, and that the public can trust the process as a result. So there's definitely some room for improvement…"

The CEC's website, votecnmi,gov.mp, shows as of press time, its listing of the election results "are currently under review."

MANIBUSAN

From Page 3

cho, he said it is his honor and a privilege to serve as a judge for the people of the CNMI. "Thank you to the voters for their overwhelming support. I am humbled by their vote of confidence," he stated.

Bogdan was also granted retention after receiving a total of 9.032 votes in favor of his retention. Of the over 9,000 votes, 4,095 came from early voting ballots, 3,992 came from Election Day voters, while 945 were absentee voters.

Covid-19 crippled a lot of dreams and businesses.
BOOST PROGRAM stimulus package revitalizes commerce and industry across CNMI
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BOOST Program is the acronym for - **B**uilding **O**ptimism, **O**pportunities and **S**tability **T**ogether. It is a financial assistance in the form of Grants – initiated by the Office of the Governor, Department of Commerce, and Department of Finance – provided to local businesses and non-profits, as well as coaching and training programs to support their viability and help create employment opportunities. The program also supports the Commonwealth government's goal of diversifying the economy and increasing tax revenues.

The BOOST program partners with local organizations to provide guidance and technical support for our local small businesses, future entrepreneurs, industry leaders, and local fishers, farmers, and ranchers.

DEADLINE EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 18

The BOOST Expo on October 25th at the Taga Hall, World Resort was open to the public to provide information about the BOOST Program and provide support to those looking to apply.

Existing CNMI Businesses, Start-up Businesses, Industrial Pioneers, and Non-Profit Organizations, apply now for the BOOST Grant Program!

For inquiries simply log on to www.boostcnmi.com

BOH celebrates 125th anniversary with tree planting campaign

WAI‘ANAE, Hawai‘i—Hundreds of volunteers rolled up their sleeves on this Arbor Day, clearing away brush and planting more than 1,500 native trees at the Wai‘anae Kai Forest Reserve for Bank of Hawai‘i’s annual Community Service Day.

This year, the event also marked the culmination of Bank of Hawai‘i’s pledge to plant the equivalent of more than 125 trees per week throughout 2022 in celebration of the bank’s 125th anniversary and commitment to sustaining the environment.

In addition to Saturday’s volunteer hours, Bank of Hawai‘i Foundation and long-time corporate partner, Hawaiian Airlines, donated a combined total of $10,000 to Wai‘anae Mountain Watershed Partnership in support of its mission to develop and implement management strategies for the Wai‘anae Mountains and its native species and habitats.

This brings the total amount of grants awarded to nonprofits from Bank of Hawai‘i’s 125th anniversary tree planting pledge to $121,202. Funds were distributed to 12 organizations across the island communities the bank serves, with $106,000 going to eight Hawai‘i nonprofits and $15,202 going to Guam, Saipan and Palau.

Location	Nonprofit
Statewide	Hawai‘i Public Health Institute
Hawai‘i Island	Three Mountain Alliance Foundation
O‘ahu	Wai‘anae Mountain Watershed Partnership
O‘ahu	Mālama Learning Center
O‘ahu	Ke Kula Nui O Waimānalo
O‘ahu	Hoa ‘Āina O Mākaha
Maui	Nā Koa Manu Conservation
Maui	Maui Nui Botanical Gardens
Kaua‘i	Mālama Kaua‘i
Guam	UOG GROW Initiative/G3 Program
Palau	Palau Conservation Society
Saipan	Mariana Islands Nature Alliance (MINA)

“Our goal during our milestone 125th anniversary year was to put our commitment to preserving our environment at the forefront, to *mālama* our islands by planting trees today for a better tomorrow. We have long focused on sustainability at Bank of Hawai‘i and caring for our home. We plan to continue to invest in the environment today and for generations to come,” said Momi Akimseu, Bank of Hawai‘i Foundation president.

Grants were determined with consultation from the DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife Kaulunani Urban & Community Forestry Program. All funds were used to plant or distribute trees for planting, with each nonprofit creating its own plan for their grant money. Many focused on providing food-bearing trees for low income communities or on campuses across Hawai‘i’s public school system. ***(BOH)***

VA Dept. announces grants for homeless vets

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Veterans’ Affairs Department on Thursday announced three grants to help veterans who are homeless or are at risk of losing their homes.

The grants are for the federal budget year that starts Oct. 1, 2023.

The Supportive Services for Veteran Families program provides services to quickly rehouse veterans and their families who are homeless, prevent the imminent loss of a veteran’s home or find new, more suitable housing options for veterans and their families. Grants will be awarded to eligible organizations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands.

Two other grants are available through the department’s Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem program. These grants will pay for “transitional supportive housing beds or service centers” or provide apartment-style housing for veterans, who can keep the units as their permanent homes when they complete the program.

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 • Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Phone: (670) 234-5498 Ext. 6824 | www.marianas.edu

AGROFORESTRY CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR NMC-CREES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
NMC RFP 23-001

Northern Marianas College, Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Services (CREES) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for Agroforestry Consultant Services. The specifications and Scope of Work package may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. P, commencing Friday, October 21, 2022 between the hours of 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Preproposal meeting is scheduled on Monday, November 7, 2022 at 09:00am – 10:00am, CNMI ChST via Zoom meeting room. Attendance is strongly recommended. **Zoom ID No. 959 331 4250.**

Proposal Packages: Due no later than 10:00 a.m., Monday, November 21, 2022, Saipan time at the Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. P, Saipan, MP 96950. Article 7, **“Local Business Preference”**, as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local vendors in this procurement.

Proposers located outside of the CNMI: You may request a copy of the RFP via email to Christina Cruz (christina.cruz@marianas.edu).

Paid for by 100% Federal Funds through the USDA-NIFA authorized under the Smith Lever Act, Section 3b & 3c, Award NO. NI19SLBCXXXXG055.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals for any reason and waive any defect in said proposals, or cancel in part or its entirety this RFP, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC and will not be returned.

/s/ Christina Cruz
NMC Procurement & Property Management Office

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055, SAIPAN, MP 96950
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 | FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
EMAIL: CPA.ADMIN@PTICOM.COM | WEBSITE: WWW.CNMIPORTS.COM

Request for Proposals for: CPA Concession No. CRS-2022-01

Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
“Car Rental Concession”
CPA-RFP-011-22

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (“CPA” or “Authority”) is soliciting proposals for the award of one (1) concession granting the privilege to provide motor vehicle rental services to the traveling public (including the provision of insurance related to motor vehicles rented in the operation of such motor vehicle rental services) at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport (“Car Rental Concession”). The successful proposer will be expected to provide motor vehicle rental services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport for a period of eighteen (18) months (contract to end on 05/31/2024) upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-011-22 is **October 12, 2022**, and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Car Rental Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport) **by or before 4:00 p.m. on November 22, 2022**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of $100.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, or cashier’s check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 22-01
United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands

Case Administrator

Permanent, Full-Time Position - Location: SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (CNMI)
Starting grade: CL-23 step 1 to CL-24 Step 25 ($40,243 to $55,717 which includes 12.45 % COLA)
(Depending on qualifications and experience; promotion potential to CL-25 without further competition)
(Ultimate pay potential CL 25 ($56,183 - $80,027) by progressive performance and career salary progression)
Opening Date: November 8, 2022 • Applications received by November 21, 2022 will be given priority.

Position Overview:
The Case Administrator will review, process, and maintain records of court cases and assist in handling the progression of cases to final disposition. Other duties include cashiering, mail processing, customer service, scanning and copying documents, and organizing and shelving library materials. Additional duties will be assigned in Procurement or as Relief Courtroom Deputy. Obtain a copy of the complete position description at https://www.uscourts.gov/careers/current-job-openings/121889 This position includes full federal employment benefits, with paid leave and holidays, health insurance, life insurance, and federal retirement benefits.

Minimum Qualifications and Preferred Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent with at least two years of general work experience. Education above the high school level may be substituted for required general work experience. Additional preference will be given for college graduate and work experience in a court or legal environment. Applicants should demonstrate sound ethics and judgment, be able to communicate effectively (orally and in writing), and be skilled in word processing, spreadsheets, and be trainable in using automated systems. Additional preference will be given for skill in using automated case management systems. Successful completion of an aptitude test may be required.

Citizenship Requirement:
Applicants are required to be U.S. citizens or aliens who are authorized to work in the United States.

Notice to Applicants:
Excepted service appointments are “at will” and may be terminated by either the court or the employee at any time for any reason. Selectees may be subject to a background check or investigation and suitability determination; and may be subject to an updated background investigations every five years. Employees are subject to the Judicial Code of Conduct. Direct bank deposit of pay is required.

Application Procedure:
Each applicant is required to submit a Cover Letter, Resume, and an AO-78 application form. (Questions 18, 19, and 20 on page 5 of the AO-78 need not be answered.) AO-78 forms are at: *https://www.uscourts.gov/forms/human-resources-forms/application-judicial-branch-federal-employment* or may be picked up at the U.S. District Court. Position is open until filled; applications received by November 21, 2022 will be given priority.

We prefer you to email signed applications to:
HR@nmid.uscourts.gov

You may deliver signed applications to:
Clerk of Court
United States District Court
for the Northern Mariana Islands
3rd Floor, United States Courthouse, Gualo Rai, Saipan

The United States District Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

ROBERT T. TORRES
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 500730 CK Plata Drive,
Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 234-7859 • Fax: 234-5750

Robert.torres@rttlawgroup.com

Attorney for Petitioner: Merced M. Tomokane

IN THE SUPERIOR COURTOF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF	Civil Action No. 22-0243
CARMEN OLOPAI TAITANO, Decedent.	NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS
	DATE: November 17, 2022 TIME: 10:00 a.m. JUDGE: Hon. Joseph N. Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE CARMEN OLOPAI TAITANO OF HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Merced M. Tomokane of Saipan, CNMI (“Petitioner”) has petitioned the Superior Court of Northern Marianas Islands to Admit the Estate of Carmen Olopai Taitano, the deceased to Probate, for Letters of Administration of the Estate and appointment of Patrick O. Taitano as a proposed Administrator of the Estate. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is 5962 Plate Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya) P.O. Box 500730, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition for Letters of Administration by Merced M. Tomokane, as Petitioner and to appoint Patrick O. Taitano as the proposed Administrator, is scheduled to be heard on the date at the time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, Guma’ Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan. All interested persons and entities should appear at the hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased, or her estate are hereby required by the law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication, or claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claims should also be sent to ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein- above indicated.

Respectfully submitted this 14th day of October 2022.

/S/_____
CLERK OF COURT/DEPUTY CLERK

$10K bail set for man accused of violating restraining order

COURTESY VISIT

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres meets with Iglesia ni Cristo executive minister Eduardo V. Manalo, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines Martin G. Romualdez, and Philippine Rep. Sandro A. Marcos during a courtesy visit to the Iglesia ni Cristo Central Office in Quezon City. "Our Filipino community is an important part of the Commonwealth's history and success, and to meet with these distinguished officials is something that reaffirms our bonds and ties together as a community as we look to address and find solutions for issues that affect our islands' Filipino community," said Torres.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has imposed a $10,000 cash bail on a man accused of violating a court-issued restraining order when he allegedly threatened his former girlfriend with a knife.

Last Monday, Superior Court associate judge Joseph Camacho imposed a $10,000 cash bail on Franklin Patrick C. Cepeda, 44, who is facing charges of domestic violence: assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, assault, disturbing the peace, and contempt.

After the bail hearing last Monday, Camacho remanded Cepeda back to Department of Corrections custody. The defendant was ordered to return to court for a preliminary hearing on Nov. 16 at 10am and for an arraignment on Dec. 15 at 8:30am.

Cepeda is represented by assistant public defender Karie Comstock while assistant attorney general Carmen Borja represents the government.

According to court documents, the Department of Public Safety received a call at around 1pm last Nov. 4, about a contempt of court complaint.

The caller told police that her ex-boyfriend, Cepeda, violated his court order by coming to her apartment without her knowledge. She said Cepeda threatened to stab her with a knife before pushing her against the bathroom door twice. After the incident, the victim said she called 911.

Police managed to locate a man who matched the description provided by the victim outside Toha Supermarket. He later identified himself as "John Cepeda" and not Franklin.

Police stated that they found a knife in a plastic bag that Cepeda was holding. However, after admitting that the knife was his, he claimed that he always carries one. Police then arrested Cepeda.

Police later stated that the victim received a phone call from DOC from Cepeda begging her to drop the complaint and forgive him.

PROCUREMENT SERVICES
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP NO.: RFP23-DOF/NMIRF-42300010

SUBMISSION: DECEMBER 1, 2022 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"SINGLE AUDIT (FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE SERVICES) FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS RETIREMENT FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED ON THE MUNIS VENDOR SELF SERVICE PORTAL (https://selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/) OR AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT HORIGUCHI BLDG, GROUND FLOOR, 123 KOPPA DI ORU & BEACH ROAD, GARAPAN, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB ARE DUE ON **NOVEMBER 22, 2022**, CLOSE OF BUSINESS AND CAN BE MADE TO MRS. VELMA BENAVENTE VIA E-MAIL AT nmirf@dof.gov.mp

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-275 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ DAVID DLG. ATALIG
ACTING ADMINISTRATOR

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Holding corporations and abusive countries accountable for slave-labor practices

Various prominent U.S. corporations, including Walmart and Intel, might be shying away from principled stances condemning foreign uses of slavery and child labor for the production of cheap consumer goods. An importation rule change proposes to eliminate declarations on imported goods that offer insights into where goods come from and whether abusive labor practices were at play. The net effect would be to help countries of origin hide their abuses from their American customers.

The existing U.S. Customs and Border Protection rules require statements of origin on shipping manifests, which offer significant clues about the labor conditions behind certain products. Consumers, of course, want access to cheap goods. But is it really worth saving a few cents to purchase goods in which slavery, forced abortion, torture or child exploitation were part of the production process?

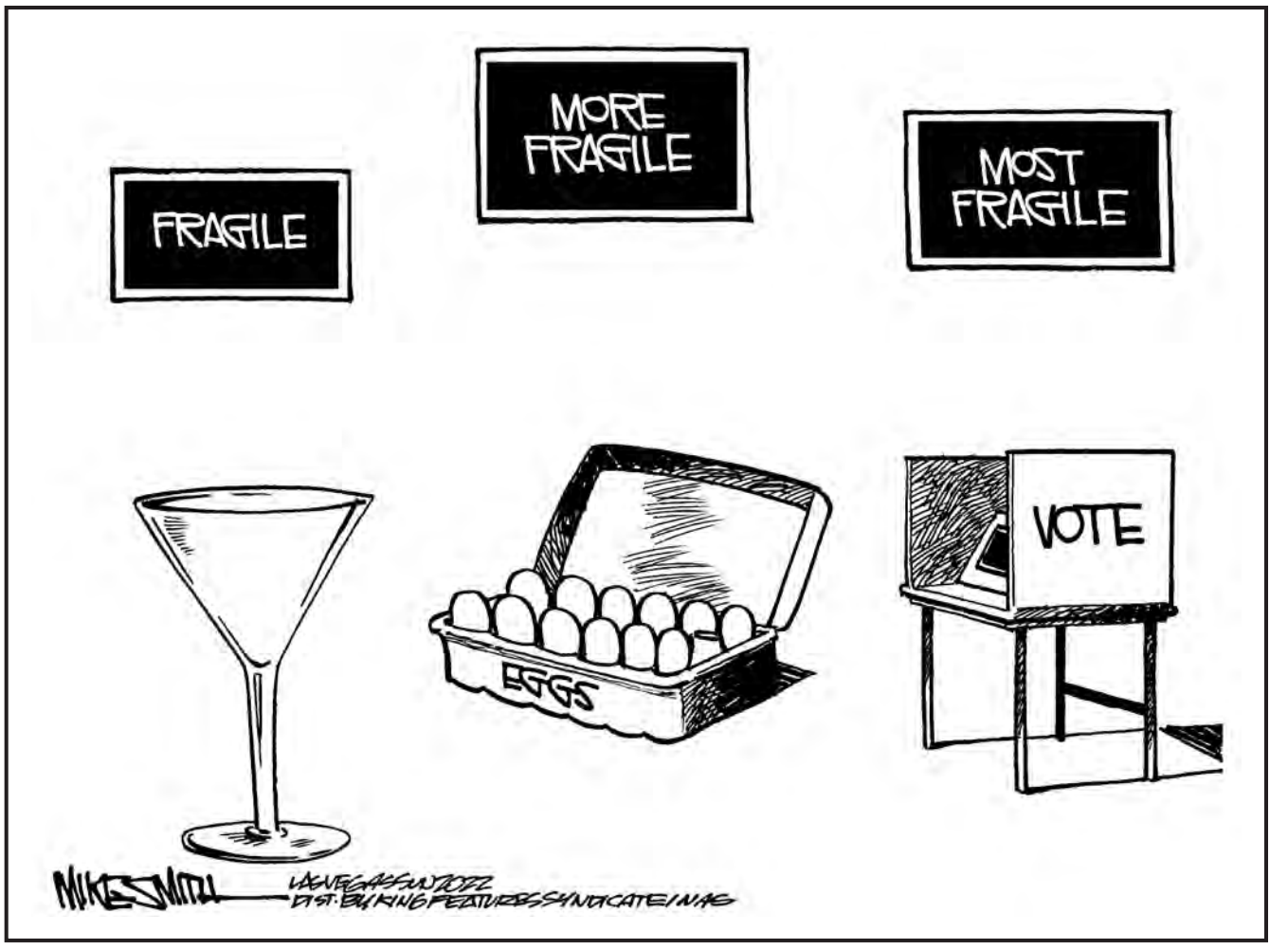
Consider the situation of Uyghurs in China. They are a primarily Muslim ethnic minority targeted by the Chinese government for "reeducation" because they are deemed too independent of Communist Party control. More than 1 million have been detained and sent to reeducation camps since 2017. They are subjected to torture, forced labor, involuntary sterilizations and forced abortions, the State Department says. Children have been taken from their parents. In the Xinjiang region of northwestern China, forced labor yields products that China then tries to export, including cotton fabric and components of microchips.

As the Post-Dispatch's Dan Neman reported last week, Intel declared in December that no components of its products came from Xinjiang, prompting such harsh pushback from the Chinese government that Intel backed down and apologized. Apologized, that is, for taking a stand against slave labor.

The Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee—executives from 20 top corporations and organizations that include Walmart, Intel and General Motors—has floated a rule change to streamline importation procedures. Shipping manifests would be treated as confidential, which means the public would have a much harder time tracing the origins of the products they're buying.

There are 41 countries whose labor practices warrant scrutiny because they use slavery or impose abusive labor conditions, including child labor. The situation involving Uyghurs is the poster child for global condemnation and consumer boycotts, but it's far from the only example. In August alone, Fortune magazine reported, Customs and Border Patrol targeted shipments valued at more than $266 million for inspection due to suspected use of forced labor, including goods from Xinjiang as well as from Brazil, Zimbabwe and India where suspected child or

See HOLDING on Next Page



The dangerous context of the Pelosi attack

By JOHN M. CRISP
Tribune News Service

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Georgetown, Texas, and can be reached at jcrispcolumns@gmail.com.

Apart from football, mixed martial arts, hockey, boxing, television, movies, books, video games and the most powerful military force in world history, Americans abhor violence.

And political violence is emphatically condemned on both ends of the political spectrum. At least it used to be.

After House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's husband, Paul, had his skull fractured with a hammer wielded by an angry Trump supporter, some Republicans responded to the attack with condemnations of political violence of any sort. Some were probably sincere.

Other responses were less sympathetic: Kari Lake, who has a good chance of becoming the next governor of Arizona, got a big laugh from a sympathetic crowd with this line: "Nancy Pelosi, well, she's got protection when she's in D.C.—apparently her house doesn't have a lot of protection." Very funny. Paul Pelosi, 82, was still in the hospital.

Clay Higgins, a Republican congressman from Louisiana, chose the conspiracy theory route, tweeting a picture of an apparently distressed Nancy Pelosi with this despicable caption: "That moment you realize the nudist hippie male prostitute LSD guy was the reason your husband didn't make it to your fundraiser."

And Donald Trump Jr., with all the class of a junior high school bully, posted a picture of a pair of men's underwear and a hammer, with this caption: "Got my Paul Pelosi Halloween costume ready."

These may seem like especially mean-spirited fringe responses to what could easily have been a tragedy, but they didn't come from the fringe. And even more decorous Republicans were quick to minimize the incident.

Some embraced "whataboutism," the misleading theory that the left is just as guilty as the right when it comes to political violence. In fact, it's been a long time since I've heard Rep. Steve Scalise mentioned so often.

Scalise was shot by a deranged Bernie Sanders supporter at the annual Congressional Baseball Game in 2017, but it would be difficult to find Democrats who took pleasure in—or made cruel jokes about—the attack.

Other Republicans took exception to the use of the term "Trump supporter" to describe Paul Pelosi's attacker, preferring to dismiss him as an unbalanced lunatic. The attacker was certainly disturbed, but it's impossible to imagine that the attack would have occurred outside of the context of Trump's "big lie" about a stolen election or the Jan. 6 attack, during which Trump supporters roamed the Capitol chanting ominously: "Where's Nancy?"

In other words, the attack on Paul Pelosi fits naturally into the angry, aggrieved context in which a significant number of citizens have been beguiled into believing that an election has been stolen from them. And Trump and many of his adherents aren't queasy about their right and responsibility to fix the stolen election, even if it requires violence.

Unfortunately, this is the same context in which this week's election will occur.

Recently a reader ended his disgruntled email to me with this quotation, attributing it to Benjamin Franklin: "Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch. Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote."

This quotation is mistaken in several ways. The first is that Franklin never said it. But the part that caught my attention was the phrase "well-armed." I'm certain that this phrase is the chief reason this bogus quotation is popular in right-wing circles.

And it helps explain why well-armed poll watchers are a thing. AR-15s, wielded by body-armored Oath Keepers, have become a persistent symbol of the violence that runs just beneath the surface of American politics.

The enigma of the attack on Paul Pelosi isn't that some Republicans casually dismissed it or made fun of it. The great mystery is that we're not more shocked by it.

We should be equally shocked by an armed attack on the Capitol. We were, briefly. But now we've gotten used to the idea that violence is so embedded in our politics that many are inclined to dismiss or trivialize it. That's the dangerous context of this week's election. We ignore it to the peril of our republic.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Division or patriotism: The American public's role in defending and sustaining democracy

By JAMES-CHRISTIAN B. BLOCKWOOD
THE FULCRUM

A civilized nation cannot be politically divided on everything. We (Americans) must share common ground on basic ideas—human rights, economic freedom, the right to think and speak freely, physical and psychological security—for our nation to thrive.

Before the 2020 election, I noted in a Federal Times piece that we were on the precipice of a modern-day civil war. Sadly, we have not gotten off that trajectory.

Discourse has collapsed. Trust has eroded. So, too, will all hope of a prosperous nation if we don't change course.

America needs a president and Congress trusted by those they serve. We the people must also play a role—by holding our leaders accountable and not allow the unraveling of civility, degradation of trust in people and politicization of our most sacred institutions. In 2018, the Pew Research Center showed growing partisan differences in public attitudes toward many federal agencies. Four years later, this same discord hasn't improved. Only 4 in 10 Americans say they trust the federal government to do what is right at least some of the time, according to a national survey conducted by the Partnership for Public Service and Freedman Consulting.

Gallup polls show public confidence in federal institutions, including the Supreme Court (25%), presidency (23%) and Congress (7%), has declined to the lowest levels since annual measurements began nearly 30 years ago.

Global democracy is declining. And, for the first time, the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance included the United States on its list of backsliding democracies.

Does this mean our democracy is doomed to fail? Though some believe it is inevitable, it's not a foregone conclusion just yet.

We must vote. We must serve. We must advocate for reform and restore trust in government.

Good places to start include:

- Strengthening our electoral voting system.
- Energizing Americans to value public service and lend their talents and expertise to our most sacred institutions.
- Focusing less on individual identity that divides and more on commonality that unites.

The country has been calling for election reform and increased participation for years. Pleas for fairness and accusations of fraud have increased, especially given the alarming trend where candidates do not concede, and results are not always immediately accepted.

We must maintain trust in elections as well as seek to simplify the voting process, update registration systems, improve public education campaigns about voting and strengthen accountability mechanisms. Congress has an opportunity to modernize and clarify ambiguities of the Electoral Count Act of 1887 particularly with respect to selecting or objecting to state electors.

Government needs the best talent. While there is no shortage of criticism for government and public servants, only roughly 6% of the nation's total workforce serve in it, and we can all agree: Too few understand how it works.

Government should serve the people. But to be most effective, the people must support it, serve in it and trust it.

Public servants should represent the best our society can offer, and elected and career government officials can help build trust by modernizing operations, improving transparency, holding accountable those failing to perform, and removing barriers to political and career service. Congress should reform the Senate confirmation process, and the Office of Personnel Management should reevaluate executive core qualifications and performance management systems, create a single leadership standard across government, and better utilize hiring platforms and authorities.

Differences can sharply divide. It can also be a strength if embraced. According to a 2019 Pew Research Center study a majority of Americans (57%) said racial and ethnic diversity is very good for the country, and more than 6 in 10 said it has a positive impact on the country's culture. Diversity, equity and inclusion should be a goal, not an argument to divide.

Yet, diversity, equity and inclusion are creating two Americas.

Genuine diversity, equity and inclusion should welcome everyone, benefit all, and move far beyond race, ethnicity and gender to include ideological and political spectrums. Importantly, diversity and inclusion should not replace but rather supplement competence and experience. Politicians, both candidates and elected officials, should not use diversity, equity and inclusion to attack or defend policy positions, nor legislate or use presidential action to dictate how we should think, learn, speak or view the world.

Further, President Joe Biden has an opportunity through the newly established Chief Diversity Officers Executive Council to provide a whole of society strategy and to facilitate dialogue with the public about our differences and offer a way forward that integrates, appreciates and elevates everyone.

We can be divided, or we can be patriotic. Democracy does not work without compromise. Democracy has failed if civil war becomes necessary.

Democracy is a concept not yet perfected. It may never be. In a truly free state, democracy can only be preserved through nourishment and finding common ground. It will take time, intentionality, strong leadership and trust to restore our faith in democratic institutions.

We all have a role in sustaining our democracy—a president must lead while unifying our country; Congress must find common ground and enact laws that strengthen society; and the public must vote responsibly and hold those we elect to represent us accountable and to the highest standards.

No one is coming to save us. It is up to us—and within us—to save ourselves.

James-Christian B. Blockwood is executive vice president of the Partnership for Public Service and a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.

Is canceling back the only cure for cancel culture? How one federal judge makes the case

By CYNTHIA M. ALLEN
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Cynthia M. Allen is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. *Readers may send her email at cmallen@star-telegram.com.*

In late September, Judge James Ho of the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, fired an unexpected (and arguably overdue) shot at campus cancel culture.

During an address to a conservative legal group, he announced that he will no longer be selecting law clerks from Yale Law School, and he encouraged other judges to do the same.

Ho called Yale the "one particular law school where cancellations and disruptions seem to occur with special frequency," and warned that this penchant for silencing ideological foes is extending beyond the campus and into firms and other corporate institutions.

To buttress this contention, he cited numerous such incidents—many of which will be familiar to those who follow free speech issues—most of which saw conservative speakers shouted down and otherwise prevented from participating in campus events based solely on the views they sought to present.

He noted cases in which law firms have reprimanded or denied employment to applicants based not on their qualifications but their beliefs.

To the casual observer, Ho's boycott looks retaliatory: if you cancel us, we will cancel you—a position that invites rebuke.

But to Ho, the boycott, which notably would apply to future but not current law students, is an effort to force change: "I don't want to cancel Yale," he said. "I want Yale to stop canceling people like me."

Sometimes, drastic problems require drastic measures.

Of course, this important nuance was lost on a truculent media, which received Ho's decision with predictable disdain.

"Ho's thinking is a blight on the judiciary and an example of why the public is losing confidence in the federal judiciary," contributor Jim Jones wrote in The Hill.

Even some critics on the right took aim.

Sarah Isgur and David French of the center-right publication The Dispatch agreed that Ho's actions are "unfair" to the would-be clerks from Yale.

Surprisingly, even Judge Jerry Smith, a Fifth Circuit colleague of Ho's, called the announcement "regrettable."

Ho's critics may not have read his speech (which has since been published with addendum) in its entirety, because Ho preemptively addresses many of these concerns.

To the assertion, for example, that the boycott will hurt Yale law students, Ho responds that "countless students are being hurt right now," by an oppressive campus environment that punishes individuals for holding alternative points of view.

Doing nothing does not serve them in any way. Doing something might.

"Most of the students being hurt today have far less ability to negotiate these dynamics successfully than future Yale grads," he adds. "Who's worrying about hurting these students?"

Indeed.

But what is truly regrettable, is that in an effort to paint Ho, a Donald Trump appointee to the federal bench, as a "MAGA darling," many of his critics ignore Ho's principled support of free speech in his rulings as a federal judge.

In Oliver v. Arnold, a former Texas high school student contended that her teacher violated her First Amendment rights by trying to force her to write the Pledge of Allegiance, which she said she disagreed with as a Black woman and an atheist, retaliating against her when she refused. Ho wrote that "no legitimate pedagogical interest is served by forcing students to agree with a particular political viewpoint or by punishing those who refuse."

Yes. Conservatives should note, that goes both ways.

Ho has also staunchly defended the speech of Texas citizen journalist Priscilla Villarreal (no conservative), who was arrested effectively for asking the government questions.

In overturning a district court opinion that gave the arresting officers the protection of qualified immunity from a lawsuit, Ho wrote, "If [this] is not an obvious violation of the Constitution, it's hard to imagine what would be."

Free speech issues often break down along partisan lines. Ho's critics assume that his Yale Law School boycott is exactly that.

But anyone who bothers to pay attention to his jurisprudence will see that for Ho, freedom of speech is a matter of principle, not partisanship. We could all learn something from that.

Since Ho made his announcement, at least a dozen federal judges have (quietly or publicly) joined him.

Yale Law School has also extended an invitation to Ho and Judge Lisa Branch of the 11th Circuit, who has joined Ho's boycott, for a conversation about "the state of freedom of speech and intellectual discourse" at the school early next year.

It's probably too much to hope that any transformation of Yale Law School's culture is imminent. But Ho's boycott has at least started a conversation, which was clearly part of his intent.

It's also a reminder to look beyond the surface-level critiques of those we disagree with, especially when it comes to freedom of speech. When someone is defending the speech of both their friends and foes, it's time to listen.

HOLDING

From Page 8

forced labor were used in production.

The advisory committee's rule-change proposal deserves a swift and unceremonious rejection. As long as American consumers blindly purchase products without knowing their origins, countries like China will feel minimal pressure to halt their egregiously abusive labor practices.

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TORRES – SABLAN

To our Dear People of the Commonwealth,

Thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts for giving us the opportunity to be a candidate as your Governor and Lt. Governor for this run-off election. Thank you for your continuous support and vote of confidence.

After creating the fastest growing economy in the world in 2016 and 2017, we rebuilt our economy after super typhoons and the global pandemic through sound investments in our tourism industry, our local small businesses, and infrastructure to create a more resilient community that protects the pensions of our retirees, advances the education of our children, and promotes the health and safety of our community. We have done all we can to set the stage for the future of our islands in the post-pandemic world and beyond, by understanding the lessons of our past and preserving our culture as our guide to improve the quality of life for everyone who calls the Marianas home.

We let our actions speak louder than our words, and we have the work to show for it. We are proud to say that we have distributed (more than any previous administrations) more household items such as rice, butane gas, butane stoves, sleeping cots, food items, CUC vouchers, and the like as a direct help to our community. This has become the norm under Governor Torres' leadership.

This is worth repeating.

While our work continues to provide meaningful benefits to our community, we know the job is not done and that the Commonwealth is poised for even more success. With you at our side, we will continue to seek viable and sustainable solutions to create greater opportunities for our people and to achieve the progress that will create the next generation of leaders and entrepreneurs. It is a vision that will also allow our loved ones from off-island to return home, build successful lives and contribute to the community we love.

We humbly ask for your support and vote of confidence.

This journey has taught us that it takes a home, a village, an island, and a community to strengthen the Marianas. If we remember that, you will be proud to say that our islands' best days are ahead under our leadership. Together, we are stronger.

With love and respect,

Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres

Vinnie Flores Sablan

Let's take this down to the finish line.

We humbly ask for your support and vote of confidence.

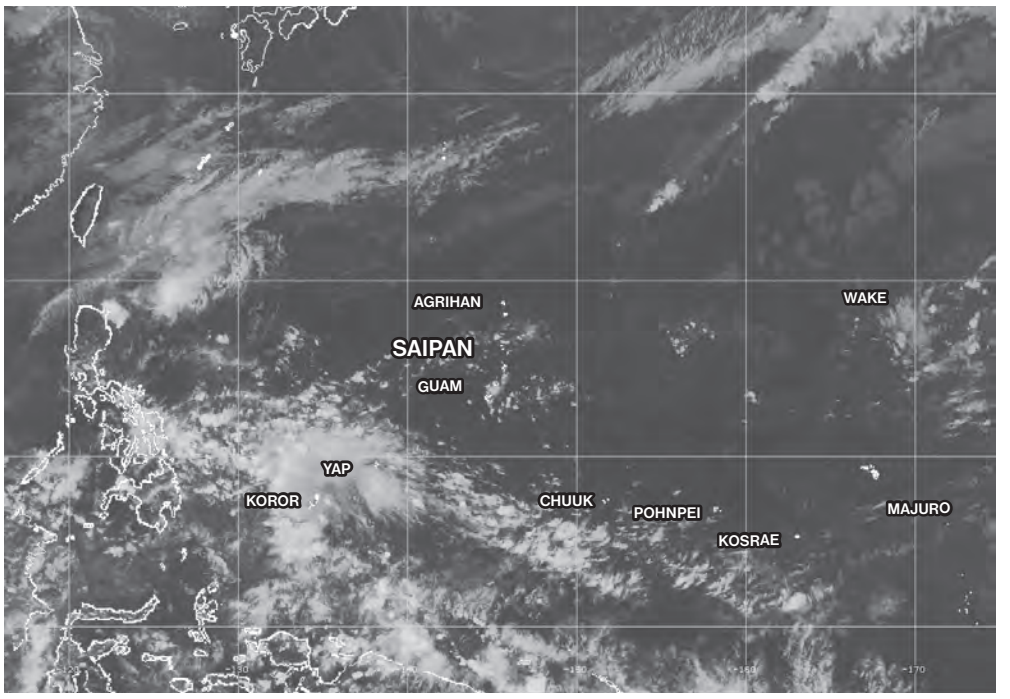
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Torres - Sablan, Zerlyn Taimanao, Treasurer

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Scattered showers. Partly sunny	Scattered showers. Partly sunny	A 50 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
88° 77°	88° 77°	88° 77°	88° 77°	88° 77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:11 AM, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2022

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Moderate trade winds and isolated showers are present across the Marianas. The buoys all indicate seas between 5 and 6 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Cloudy	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers/Wind	71° / 59°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	63° / 48°
Hong Kong	Sunny	78° / 72°
Honolulu	Sunny	84° / 73°
London	Mostly Cloudy	60° / 56°
Los Angeles	Rain	62° / 55°
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 77°
Melbourne	Showers	76° / 62°
Miami	Rain/Wind	78° / 72°
New York	Sunny	56° / 44°
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	71° / 53°
Paris	Mostly Sunny	58° / 42°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	71° / 58°
Rome	Cloudy	72° / 52°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	69° / 54°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	57° / 44°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	66° / 44°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	70° / 52°
Washington, DC	Sunny	61° / 46°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Friday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:17 AM	5:44 PM
Sunday	6:17 AM	5:44 PM
Monday	6:18 AM	5:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	7:33 AM	7:03 PM
Friday	-	8:28 AM	7:51 PM
Saturday	-	9:22 AM	8:42 PM
Sunday	-	10:14 AM	9:34 PM
Monday	-	11:03 AM	10:26 PM

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:37 AM	Low Tide	-0.34
9:33 AM	High Tide	1.74
3:03 PM	Low Tide	1.06
7:46 PM	High Tide	1.69

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2022

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily

SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)

UA824	7:05AM	9:45AM	1, 3, 5

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	6:00AM	7:45AM	Daily
UA193	7:55PM	11:50PM	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	8:00PM	9:50PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	9:50AM	9:50PM	Daily via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	11:50PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau
OZ624/701	3:40PM	10:35AM+1	3,6 via Incheon

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

OZ624	3:40PM	7:40PM	3, 6
TW308	4:30PM	8:20PM	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3405	4:35PM	8:25PM	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

BX621	3:10PM	6:30PM	3, 7

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:46AM	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

UA825	9:25PM	2:00AM+1	2, 4, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

PR110	10:05PM	3:55AM+1	Daily
UA184	10:55PM	4:45AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA192	10:40PM	6:30AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA184	12:40AM	6:30AM	3, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA189/174	12:40AM	8:46AM+1	3, 6 via Guam
UA184/174	10:55PM	8:46AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA192/174	10:40PM	8:46AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
OZ704/623	11:50PM	2:40PM+1	2, 5 via Incheon

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ623	9:00AM	2:40PM	3, 6
TW307	10:00AM	3:30PM	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3406	10:10AM	3:30PM	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

BX622	8:00AM	1:10PM	3, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

MARIANAS SOUTHERN AIRWAYS

INITIAL DAILY FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2022

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
7:00 A.M.	7:15 A.M.	(Except Sundays)
9:50 A.M.	10:05 A.M.	
4:00 P.M.	4:15 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
7:35 A.M.	7:50 A.M.	(Except Sundays)
10:25 A.M.	10:40 A.M.	
4:35 P.M.	4:50 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
8:10 A.M.	8:40 A.M.	
1:45 P.M.	2:15 P.M.	

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
9:00 A.M.	9:30 A.M.	
2:35 P.M.	3:05 P.M.	

SAIPAN TO GUAM

DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
11:10 A.M.	12:00 P.M.	
5:15 P.M.	6:05 P.M.	

GUAM TO SAIPAN

DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
12:30 P.M.	1:20 P.M.	
6:40 P.M.	7:30 P.M.	

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
3103	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

Business

UKRAINE GRAIN DEAL

US presses, but Russia reluctant

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations warned that global food security depends on renewing the U.N.-brokered deal allowing Ukrainian grain exports, saying Tuesday that 828 million people in the world are going to bed hungry every night.

Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield said that makes it imperative that the agreement enabling Ukrainian shipments through the Black Sea be extended beyond its scheduled expiration in 11 days.

She said at a news conference in the Ukrainian capital Kyiv that "Ukraine has long been a breadbasket for much of the developing world, but Russia's invasion turned Ukraine's rolling wheat fields into battlefields, and Russian forces have deliberately attacked so much of Ukraine's agricultural infrastructure."

Thomas-Greenfield said she told Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy that food security is "a personal priority" at a meeting where she also reiterated the United States' steadfast support for Ukraine for as long as it takes.

During her day-long visit, the diplomat also announced an additional $25 million to help Ukrainians survive the coming winter as Russian troops bombard their infrastructure. And she discussed ways to ensure accountability for the war crimes and atrocities perpetrated on the Ukrainian people.

At a grain storage facility, Thomas-Greenfield told farmers that she still sees Ukraine "as the breadbasket of the world" and that extending the wartime deal to facilitate Black Sea shipments of Ukrainian grain which expires on Nov. 18 is a priority for the U.N.

"This (war) really has had an impact on the entire global food market," Thomas-Greenfield said.

She said at the news conference that the Russians "have spoiled fields, they've bombed grain silos, and literally stolen tractors."

"These are not only horrific attacks on civilian infrastructure, they are also attacks on the world's food supply, and they have exacerbated the worst food security crisis any of us have ever seen," Thomas-Greenfield said. "This extensive sabotage campaign has made matters worse for countries like Ethiopia, South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, all of whom are facing famine. And starvation and acute malnutrition are taking other countries by storm."

Major cuts in food and fertilizer shipments from Ukraine and Russia have contributed to global food shortages and higher prices.

U.N. trade chief Rebeca Grynspan, who is overseeing the Russian side of the grain deal, told the U.N. Security Council last week that Ukraine and Russia provide around 30% of the world's exported wheat and barley, 20% of its maize, and over 50% of its sunflower oil. Russia is also the world's largest exporter of fertilizers, accounting for 15% share of global exports.

Russia's deputy foreign minister, Andrey Rudenko, said Tuesday that the Kremlin has not yet decided whether to extend its agreement with Turkey and the U.N.

"We still have time. We are looking at how this deal is being implemented, following the restoration of our participation," Rudenko said. "We are very dissatisfied with how the Russian part is being implemented."

Russia briefly suspended its participation in the deal last week, alleging a Ukrainian drone attack on its Black Sea fleet in Crimea on Oct. 29. Ukraine has not claimed responsibility for the attack.

Russia and Ukraine signed separate agreements on July 22 for a Black Sea corridor that cleared the way for the export of grain out of three Ukrainian ports, as well as for shipments of Russian grain and fertilizer. The deal, which established an inspection and monitoring system, will expire Nov. 19 unless it is renewed.

Russia's U.N. representatives said last month that a renewed agreement must allow for increased Russian exports of food and fertilizer. Although international sanctions did not target those goods, shipping and insurance companies have been reluctant to deal with Russia following its Feb. 24 invasion of Ukraine.

Rudenko said Moscow "has not yet seen progress" in the implementation of the deal's provisions regarding Russian food and fertilizer.

Ukrainian farmers told Thomas-Greenfield they wanted milled wheat to be part of any renewed deal. Currently, only unmilled grains are covered. Sergii Kurdytskyi, executive director for Gospodar, a grain and dairy cooperative, told The Associated Press that production and market confidence would suffer if the grain export deal does not continue.

The grain initiative was a rare example of cooperation between Ukraine and Russia. The Ukrainian ports were blockaded and mined early in the war, but more than 10 million tons of grain have left the Ukrainian ports for destinations in Africa, Asia and Europe since the Black Sea corridor was established in July.

Ukraine's infrastructure minister, Oleksandr Kubrakov, wrote on Twitter that seven more ships were to berth Tuesday in Ukrainian ports, to be loaded with 140,000 tons of grain. But his deputy, Yuri Vaskov, charged that Russia has slowed down the pace of shipments.

Elon Musk sells $3.95B worth of Tesla stock

Twitter's new owner and Tesla CEO Elon Musk has sold nearly $4 billion worth of Tesla shares, according to regulatory filings.

Musk, who bought Twitter for $44 billion, sold 19.5 million shares of the electric car company from Nov. 4 to Nov. 8, according to Tuesday's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

He sold $7 billion of his Tesla stock in August as he worked to finance the Twitter purchase he was trying to get out of at the time. In all, Musk has sold more than $19 billion worth of Tesla stock since April, including those in Tuesday's filings, likely to fund his share of the Twitter purchase.

Most of Musk's wealth is tied up in shares of Tesla Inc. On Tuesday, his personal net worth dropped below $200 billion, according to Forbes, but he is still the world's richest person.

Musk had lined up banks including Morgan Stanley to help finance the Twitter deal. His original share of the deal was about $15.5 billion, Wedbush Analyst Dan Ives estimated . But if equity investors dropped out, Musk would be on the hook to replace them or throw in more of his own money.

Tesla's shares closed down $5.78, or 2.9%, at $191.30. The stock has lost 52% of its value since the start of this year. In comparison, the S&P 500 index has lost about 20% of its value so far this year.

Nation

Democrats hold suburban House districts, key governors' mansions

AP

New York Gov. Kathy Hochul stands with Lt. Gov. Antonio Delgado during their election-night party Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022, in New York.

WASHINGTON (AP)—With control of Congress in the balance, Democrats' worst fears had not materialized after midnight Wednesday on the East Coast, as they held on to key governors' mansions and closely watched seats in moderate suburban districts.

A district-by-district fight was underway for control of the House, with Democrats keeping seats in districts from Virginia to Kansas and Rhode Island. Rep. Elaine Luria, a Navy veteran who serves on the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection, was the first Democratic incumbent to lose a highly competitive House district. Many of the districts that could determine House control in states like New York and California had not been called.

Rep. Kevin McCarthy, the Republican poised to be House speaker if the GOP takes control of the chamber, had not yet addressed supporters.

Democrats held a crucial Senate seat in New Hampshire, where incumbent Maggie Hassan defeated Republican Don Bolduc, a retired Army general who had initially promoted former President Donald Trump's lies about the 2020 election but tried to shift away from some of the more extreme positions he took during the GOP primary. Republicans held Senate seats in Ohio and North Carolina.

The outcome of races for House and Senate will determine the future of President Joe Biden's agenda and serve as a referendum on his administration as the nation reels from record-high inflation and concerns over the direction of the country. Republican control of the House would likely trigger a round of investigations into Biden and his family, while a GOP Senate takeover would hobble Biden's ability to make judicial appointments.

Democrats were facing historic headwinds. The party in power almost always suffers losses in the president's first midterm elections, but Democrats had been hoping that anger from the Supreme Court's decision to gut abortion rights might energize their voters to buck historical trends.

In Pennsylvania, Democratic Attorney General Josh Shapiro beat Republican Doug Mastriano to keep the governorship of a key presidential battleground state blue. Shapiro's victory rebuffed an election denier who some feared would not certify a Democratic presidential win in the state in 2024. Democrats Kathy Hochul of New York, Michelle Lujan Grisham of New Mexico and Janet Mills of Maine also repelled Republican challengers.

Georgia GOP Gov. Brian Kemp won reelection, defeating Stacey Abrams in a rematch of their 2018 race. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis and Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, two future possible Republican presidential contenders, beat back Democratic challengers to win in the nation's two largest red states.

In Georgia, Democratic Sen. Raphael Warnock and Republican challenger Herschel Walker were vying for a seat that could determine control of the Senate.

AP VoteCast, a broad survey of the national electorate, showed that high inflation and concerns about the fragility of democracy were heavily influencing voters.

Half of voters said inflation factored significantly, with groceries, gasoline, housing, food and other costs that have shot up in the past year. Slightly fewer — 44% — said the future of democracy was their primary consideration.

Overall, 7 in 10 voters said the ruling overturning the 1973 decision enshrining abortion rights was an important factor in their midterm decisions.

VoteCast also showed the reversal was broadly unpopular. About 6 in 10 say they are angry or dissatisfied by it, while about 4 in 10 were pleased. And roughly 6 in 10 say they favor a law guaranteeing access to legal abortion nationwide.

There were no widespread problems with ballots or voter intimidation reported around the country, though there were hiccups typical of most Election Days.

Voters also were deciding high-profile races for Senate or governor in places such as Pennsylvania, Nevada, Wisconsin, Arizona and Michigan. Contests also were on the ballot for secretaries of state, roles that typically generate little attention but have come under growing scrutiny as GOP contenders who refused to accept the results of the 2020 campaign were running to control the management of future elections.

Asia

Charges filed vs PH prisons chief in killing of journalist

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine authorities filed murder complaints on Monday against the top prisons official and an aide, accusing them of masterminding the killing of a radio commentator in an elaborate crime they said showed that the country's prisons system had been turned into a "criminal organization."

The complaints were filed against Bureau of Corrections chief Gerald Bantag, who has been suspended from his post, prisons security official Ricardo Zulueta and other key suspects in the Oct. 3 fatal shooting of Percival Mabasa. The journalist had fiercely criticized Bantag and other officials for alleged corruption and other anomalies.

Mabasa, who used the broadcast name Percy Lapid, is among the latest media workers killed in a Southeast Asian country regarded as among the most dangerous for journalists in the world.

A joint statement read at a news conference by top justice, interior and police officials said three gang leaders locked up in the country's largest prison under Bantag's control were tapped to look for a gunman to kill Mabasa for a 550,000-peso ($9,300) contract.

After the killing, however, the gunman, who was identified by police as Joel Escorial, surrendered in fear after government officials raised a reward for his capture. He then publicly identified an inmate, Jun Villamor, who he said was assigned by detained gang leaders to call him and arrange Mabasa's killing. The gang leaders later killed Villamor inside the prison by suffocating him with a plastic bag allegedly on orders of Bantag and Zulueta, officials said.

"Bantag had a clear motive to effect the murders," officials said in the statement.

Mabasa was shot to death for his critical exposes against the prisons chief, and Villamor was killed by gang leaders as a cover-up after he was publicly identified by the gunman as the inmate who arranged the killing behind bars, they said.

Bantag has denied any involvement in the killings. He and Zulueta have also been charged for the killing of Villamor. No warrants have been issued yet for their arrests, officials said.

The investigation of the killings bared "the unfortunate transformation of a pillar of justice—the correction pillar—into a deep, large-scale and systematic criminal organization," officials said in their statement.

"This will be the cause of many reforms in government and the strengthening of current mechanisms to ensure that nothing of this nature will happen again," they said.

As suspicions grew over Bantag's involvement in the two killings, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. ordered him suspended indefinitely and replaced with a former military chief of staff, Gregorio Catapang Jr.

A recent search of the maximum-security prison complex under Bantag's control yielded more than 7,000 cans of extra-strong beer, bladed weapons, cellphones, laptop computers and suspected drugs in a discovery that deepened long-held suspicions of prison anomalies involving officials and guards, Catapang said.

"There are many crimes that we have to look into," Justice Secretary Jesus Crispin Remulla told a news conference. He cited the beer, drugs and other contrabands smuggled into prison and the deaths of 18 detained drug lords supposedly of coronavirus infection followed by their cremation in a span of 75 days.

Aside from Bantag, Mabasa had also strongly criticized former President Rodrigo Duterte, who oversaw a deadly crackdown on illegal drugs. Duterte ended his turbulent six-year term in June.

Duterte appointed Bantag as Bureau of Corrections chief in 2019 despite pending criminal complaints. Bantag had faced charges for a 2016 clash that killed 10 inmates when he was the warden in another detention center. A court later cleared him.

Media watchdogs have condemned Mabasa's killing, saying the attack underscores how deadly the Philippines remains for journalists.

Seoul: Recovered N. Korean missile was anti-aircraft weapon

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea says the recovered debris of a North Korean missile fired toward the South amid a barrage of sea launches last week was determined to be a Soviet-era anti-aircraft weapon that dates back to the 1960s.

South Korea's Defense Ministry said Wednesday that an analysis of the 3-meter (9.8 foot)-long wreckage fetched from waters near the Koreas' eastern sea boundary on Sunday showed it was one of North Korea's SA-5 surface-to-air missiles. The ministry said a similar missile was used by the Russian military to execute ground attacks during its invasion of Ukraine.

Photos released by the South Korean military showed what appeared to be a mangled rocket engine and wires sticking out from a broken rocket body that was still attached with fins.

The missile, which was one of more than 20 missiles North Korea fired last Wednesday, flew in the direction of a populated South Korean island and landed near the rivals' tense sea border, triggering air raid sirens and forcing residents on Ulleung island to evacuate.

The South Korean Defense Ministry said it "strongly" condemns the North Korea's firing of the SA-5, which it sees as a violation of a 2018 inter-Korean military agreement on reducing tensions.

North Korea fired dozens of missiles last week, including an intercontinental ballistic missile that triggered evacuation warnings in northern Japan, in an angry reaction to a massive combined aerial exercise between the United States and South Korea that the North described as an invasion rehearsal.

Some experts say it's possible that North Korea reached into the inventory of some of its older weapons to support the expanded scale of last week's launches, which the North described as simulated attacks on key South Korean and U.S. targets such as air bases and operation command systems.

The launches added to North Korea's record pace in weapons testing this year as leader Kim Jong Un exploits the distraction created by Russia's war on Ukraine to accelerate arms development and ramp up pressure on the United States and its regional allies.

"The North Koreans would want to display their range of missile technologies through these tests, but not all launches have to reveal the latest technological advancements," said Soo Kim, a security analyst from California-based RAND Corporation.

World

Zelenskyy open to talks with Russia—on Ukraine's terms

AP
Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy speaks at a news conference in Kyiv, Ukraine, on July 28, 2022.

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—Ukraine's president has suggested he's open to peace talks with Russia, softening his refusal to negotiate with Moscow as long as President Vladimir Putin is in power while sticking to Kyiv's core demands.

Volodymyr Zelenskyy's appeal to the international community to "force Russia into real peace talks" reflected a change in rhetoric. In late September, after Russia illegally annexed four Ukrainian regions, he signed a decree stating "the impossibility of holding talks" with Putin.

But the preconditions the Ukrainian leader listed late Monday appear to be non-starters for Moscow, so it's hard to see how Zelenskyy's latest comments would advance any talks.

Zelenskyy reiterated that his conditions for dialogue were the return of all of Ukraine's occupied lands, compensation for war damage and the prosecution of war crimes. He didn't specify how world leaders should coerce Russia into talks.

Western weapons and aid have been key to Ukraine's ability to fight off Russia's invasion, which some initially expected would tear through the country with relative ease. That means Kyiv cannot ignore how the war is seen in the U.S. and the European Union, according to political analyst Volodymyr Fesenko.

"Zelenskyy is trying to maneuver because the promise of negotiations does not oblige Kyiv to anything, but it makes it possible to maintain the support of Western partners," Fesenko, head of the Kyiv-based Penta Center independent think tank, said.

"A categorical refusal to hold talks plays into the Kremlin's hands, so Zelenskyy is changing the tactics and talks about the possibility of a dialogue, but on conditions that make it all very clear," he added.

While support for Ukraine has garnered strong bipartisan support in the U.S. Congress, a growing conservative opposition could complicate that next year if Republicans take control of the House in Tuesday's elections.

Recent comments by Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy that lawmakers would not cut a "blank check" to Ukraine reflect the party's growing skepticism about the cost of support.

In private, Republican lawmakers who support aid to Ukraine see an opportunity to pass one more tranche of assistance this year with the current Congress.

WORLD BRIEFS

Senior UK government member resigns amid bullying claims

LONDON (AP)—A senior member of Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's government announced his resignation Tuesay night after mounting allegations that he bullied colleagues. Gavin Williamson announced his resignation as minister of state without portfolio in letter posted on Twitter, four days after the Times of London published expletive-laden text messages he sent to another member of Parliament.

After that, a senior civil servant alleged that Williamson subjected them to sustained bullying, telling the individual to "slit your throat" on one occasion and "jump out of the window" on another.

In his resignation letter, Williamson said he had apologized for the text messages and was cooperating with an investigation of that conduct. But he rejected suggestions that the second incident involved bullying.

Brazil's da Silva forms mixed economics team for transition

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP)—President-elect Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's transition added a team of economists Tuesday that includes at least two members likely to allay market worries about potential business and financial policies the incoming leftist leader might be considering.

Investors look favorably on André Lara Resende and Pérsio Arida, conservative economists who were among the architects of the Real Plan in the 1990s that implemented a new Brazilian currency and tamed hyperinflation. The other two economists on the transition team are Nelson Barbosa, who was finance minister under President Dilma Rousseff of da Silva's Workers' Party, and Guilherme Mello, an economics professor who has long been known as the Worker's Party economist.

"They don't have opposing views. They're complementary," Vice President-elect Geraldo Alckmin told reporters during the announcement in the capital, Brasilia.

Life & Style

Chris Evans named Sexiest Man Alive by People magazine

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Chris Evans may have put down Captain America's shield but he's got a new badge of honor: he's been named People magazine's Sexiest Man Alive.

People's selection was announced Monday night on Stephen Colbert's late night show and on the magazine's website. Evans, who for nearly a decade played Captain America in Marvel's sprawling superhero films, takes the baton from another Avenger, Paul Rudd.

"My mom will be so happy," he told the magazine for its cover story, which hits newsstands on Friday. "She's proud of everything I do but this is something she can really brag about."

Evans

He also knows that he's likely to be teased by close friends. "Really this will just be a point of bullying," he joked in an interview. "It's ripe for harassment."

Among those likely to heckle him are co-stars and previous Sexiest Man Alive winners like Rudd, Ryan Reynolds and Chris Hemsworth. (Hemsworth, who plays Thor in the Marvel films, was the first Avenger to win People's annual honor, which was first handed out to Mel Gibson in 1985.)

Other past honorees include John Legend, Dwayne Johnson, Idris Elba, Adam Levine, Richard Gere, Channing Tatum and David Beckham.

People interviewed Evans, 41, at a Georgia farmhouse, where the actor talked about finding a better work-life balance. "The most enjoyable aspect of my career right now is feeling secure enough to take my foot off the gas," he said.

Evans' first film role came in 2000's "The New Comers" and he played superhero Johnny Storm in two "Fantastic Four" films released in 2005 and 2007. But he gained widespread fame in 2011 with the release of "Captain America: The First Avenger."

Since then, he's played the wholesome superhero in 10 Marvel films, laying down his shield after saving the universe in "Avengers: Endgame" in 2019.

Evans has become a highly bankable star, voicing the Buzz Lightyear character in Pixar's "Lightyear" film and playing a sadistic assassin trying to kill Reynolds in Netflix's "The Gray Man"—both released this year.

Discovery of bronzes rewrites Italy's Etruscan-Roman history

ROME (AP)—Italian authorities on Tuesday announced the extraordinary discovery of 2,000-year-old bronze statues in an ancient Tuscan thermal spring and said the find will "rewrite history" about the transition from the Etruscan civilization to the Roman Empire.

The discovery, in the sacred baths of the San Casciano dei Bagni archaeological dig near Siena, is one of the most significant ever in the Mediterranean and certainly the most important since the 1972 underwater discovery of the famed Riace bronze warriors, said Massimo Osanna, the Culture Ministry's director of museums.

Thanks to the mud that protected them, the two-dozen figurines and other bronze objects were found in a perfect state of conservation, bearing delicate facial features, inscriptions and rippled tunics. Alongside the figures were 5,000 coins in gold, silver and bronze, the ministry said.

ITALIAN CULTURE MINISTRY VIA AP

A statue is seen at the site of the discovery of two dozen well-preserved bronze statues from an ancient Tuscan thermal spring in San Casciano dei Bagni, central Italy, in this undated photo made available by the Italian Culture Ministry, Thursday, Nov. 3, 2022.

As evidence of the importance of the find, the ministry announced the construction of a new museum in the area to house the antiquities.

Jacopo Tabolli, who coordinated the dig for the University for Foreigners in Siena, said the discovery was significant because it sheds new light on the end of the Etruscan civilization and the expansion of the Roman Empire in today's central Italy between the 2nd and 1st centuries B.C.

The period was marked by wars and conflicts across what is today's Tuscany, Umbria and Lazio regions, and yet, the bronze statues show evidence that Etruscan and Roman families prayed together to deities in the sacred sanctuary of the thermal springs. The statues, including depictions of Apollo and Igea, the ancient Greek god and goddess of health, bear both Etruscan and Latin inscriptions.

"While there were social and civil wars being fought outside the sanctuary ... inside the sanctuary the great elite Etruscan and Roman families prayed together in a context of peace surrounded by conflict," Tabolli said. "This possibility to rewrite the relationship and dialectic between the Etruscan and Romans is an exceptional opportunity."

Some of the two dozen bronzes are entire human-like figures of deities, while others are of individual body parts and organs which would have been offered up as votive offerings to the gods for intervention for medical cures via the thermal waters, the ministry said in a statement.

18-carat pink diamond reaps $28.8 million at Swiss auction

AP

A Christie's employee displays a pink diamond called "The Fortune Pink" of 18,18 carat, during a preview at Christie's, in Geneva, Switzerland, Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2022.

GENEVA (AP)—A pear-shaped 18-carat pink diamond billed as a rarity sold at a Geneva auction for 28.4 million Swiss francs ($28.8 million), including fees and taxes, on the lower end of the expected range.

The "Fortune Pink" fancy vivid pink stone, said to be the largest of its kind and shape to go on the block, headlined Christie's latest Geneva sale of jewelry. It had been expected to fetch between $25 million and $35 million.

The auction house said an unidentified Asian buyer snapped up the diamond.

Max Fawcett, head of Christie's jewelry department in Geneva, said the stone with a strong, saturated pink color was mined in Brazil more than 15 years ago. He declined to identify its owner, but described the diamond as "a true miracle of nature."

Christie's says the first pink diamonds ever recorded were found in India's Golconda mines in the 16th century, before others turned up over the centuries in places like Africa, Australia, Brazil and Russia.

The pink stone's auction followed a showroom tour in New York, Shanghai, Singapore and Taiwan before its arrival in Geneva.

Queer couple plan life together on their terms

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 30-something bisexual man who is in a relationship with a bisexual woman the same age. We both lived different lives and dated a variety of people before we met, but now I am pretty certain she is The One. The issue arises when it comes to how others, particularly my parents and their friends, perceive us.

To us, we are two queer people who have identified as some form of queer or bisexual since we were teenagers. We have repeatedly faced backlash from conservative family members and family friends about those we are attracted to. One of my mother's best friends is extremely homophobic. She has, at various holiday parties my parents have hosted, loudly voiced her homophobic views, including how proud she was to vote against same-sex marriage.

How can I kindly explain to my mother that my girlfriend and I are NOT STRAIGHT, and it's wrong to attach the straight label to us when we don't identify that way? Also, I want to say that I don't feel comfortable around her friend. A lot of what she talks about involves denigrating the sexuality of folks I have deep affection for.

My mother is extremely defensive about her friend. She didn't take it kindly when I told her I deserve an apology for having to sit through this woman's homophobic diatribes given that I am LGBTQ myself. We would like to be married in the next couple of years and make it a homophobia-free wedding. Can you help?

UN-STRAIGHT IN MICHIGAN

DEAR UN-STRAIGHT: The way to explain to your mother that you and your soon-to-be fiancee are not straight would be to tell her that in plain English. If you want to ensure that you and the woman you love have a homophobia-free wedding, plan it yourselves and control the guest list.

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to "Jeff" for nearly 50 years. He suddenly learned through DNA that he has a 52-year-old son. The son has visited him, and they have talked on the phone. The guy was conceived in the summer of 1970. I started seeing my husband in September of that year.

Jeff wants this man to leave him alone, and I can't deal with it either. We have three grown children, two of whom have become friends with this guy. There's no denying him. He looks more like Jeff than our son does. Evidently, the mother (who is deceased) never told him who his dad was. Are we wrong to feel this way?

DON'T WANT TO DEAL WITH IT

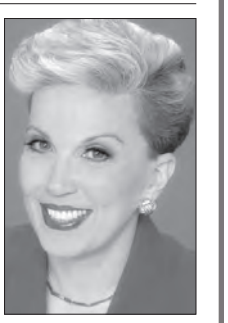
DEAR DON'T: What does this man want from your husband? If it's information, it should be shared. However, if what he's seeking is the father he never had and a sense of belonging in your family, and you don't have it in your hearts to give it to him, then your feelings are your feelings. You have a right to them. I would gently remind you, however, that our society has changed a great deal over the last half-century. While the kind of news you received used to be shocking or embarrassing, people today are far less judgmental and more welcoming than they used to be.

■■■■

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

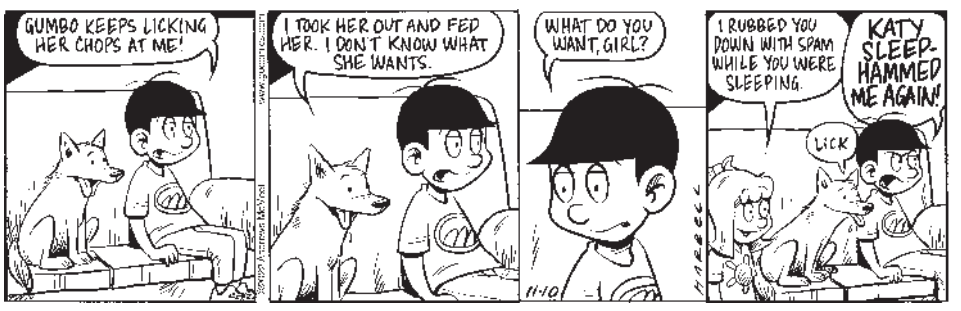
DID I GET ANOTHER LETTER TODAY?
YEP! WHEN YOU WRITE TO YOURSELF, YOU GET A LOT OF MAIL.
I DON'T WRITE THESE! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
OH C'MON, CALVIN. I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN PUTTING THESE OUT FOR THE MAILMAN EVERY DAY.
WAIT A MINUTE! THESE ARE COMING FROM OUR HOUSE??
OH, AND I WANT YOU TO ASK BEFORE YOU CUT UP MY MAGAZINES, OK?
ALL RIGHT, WHERE'S THAT MISERABLE BUNCH OF STRIPEY ORANGE FLEA BAIT?!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


GUMBO KEEPS LICKING HER CHOPS AT ME!
I TOOK HER OUT AND FED HER. I DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE WANTS.
WHAT DO YOU WANT, GIRL?
I RUBBED YOU DOWN WITH SPAM WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING.
KATY SLEEP-HAMMED ME AGAIN!
LICK

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

Stupid Kids. Glued to their dumb phones.
Looking out the bus window is where the REAL action is! All the drama and suspense of real everyday life!!
There's that dog that's always pooping.
SCHOOL
SCHOOL BUS

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Foundation
4 Mafia boss
8 Cartoonist Addams, familiarly
12 Year in Madrid
13 "Excuse me ..."
14 Summer month in Paris
15 Overshadow
17 Fizzy drink
18 Business mag
19 Eluded the ticket taker
21 Prickly plant
24 Madrid Mrs.
25 Paris pal
26 Eggy quaff
28 The Gem State
32 Happy melody
34 Cutting tool
36 Harrow rival
37 Sigmund or Anna
39 That girl
41 Fun and games
42 Scratch the surface
44 Half a score
46 Dilemma
50 Charged bit
51 "The Addams Family" actor Julia
52 Result of canonization
56 Monster
57 Emmy-winning Daly
58 Crew tool
59 Disorder
60 Fly high
61 Peaks (Abbr.)

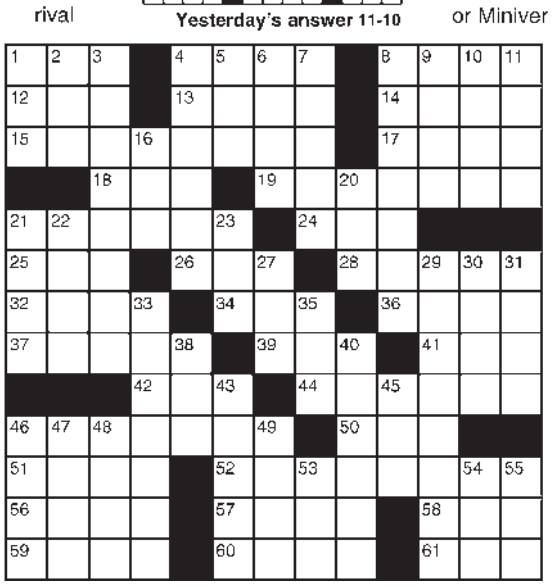
DOWN

1 Abysmal
2 Rock producer Brian
3 Home
4 Mexican resort
5 "Now I get it!"
6 Favorites
7 Portents
8 Waterfall
9 Hoops shot
10 BMW rival
11 Jazz legend Getz
16 Bankbook abbr.
20 Swiss canton
21 Baby elephant
22 "The Kite Runner" boy
23 "Mayday!"
27 "So frustrating!"
29 Willy-nilly
30 Worked the soil
31 Formerly
33 Falls
35 Marry
38 The Cowboys, on a scoreboard
40 Director Rob
43 Takes five
45 Guest's bed
46 Senior moment?
47 Fury
48 Belonging to us
49 BLT spread
53 Garten of the Food Network
54 Granola morsel
55 Doubtfire or Miniver

Solution time: 24 mins.

N	O	W		R	O	S	A		S	I	L	O
A	V	A		E	H	A	S			D	E	A
P	A	N		H	O	N	K	Y		O	N	K
A	L	G	A	E			S	A	C			
			L	A	M	B		M	O	T	E	T
H	E	R	B	T	E	A	S		M	E	S	A
U	T	F		S	T	Y	E	S		M	A	I
S	T	F	M		I	C		T	O	P		C
I	U	-	A	S		J	I	C	I			
			R	E	F			I	M	A	G	E
H	A	I	R	T	O	N	I	C		H	A	L
R	A	R	E		R	I	C	A		A	L	A
S	H	E	D		T	T	Y	L		B	E	L

Yesterday's answer 11-10



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Miranda Lambert, 39; Ellen Pompeo, 53; Tracy Morgan, 54; Michael Jai White, 55.

Happy Birthday: Adjust your lifestyle to ease stress. Look for outlets that put your mind at ease and motivate you to spend more time doing things that put a smile on your face. Put a budget in place that helps you set up your home to suit your needs. Make convenience and comfort your priorities, and surround yourself with people who bring out the best in you. Your numbers are 6, 17, 22, 24, 35, 44, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Reach out to people you like to work alongside and make a proposal that's too good to turn down. Aplan and a core group will give you the confidence to forge ahead and bring about positive change. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Don't let curiosity be your downfall. Look at what's possible and use your intelligence and imagination to devise a way to use your skills and talents to get ahead. Put a plan in place, and don't stop until you get your desired results. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Emotions will get you in trouble. A sob story will tug at your heart and cost you one way or another. Put a plan in motion and concentrate on your end goal. Stop wasting time; take care of unfinished business. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Sharing secrets will backfire. Don't underestimate what someone will do to make you look bad. Make personal growth, knowledge and looking your best your priorities, and steer clear of anyone quizzing you about your personal life. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* You can't please everyone, but you can make a difference if you get involved in a cause that concerns you. Getting outside of your everyday environment will be eye-opening and push you to do something that offers satisfaction and warms your heart. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Be careful not to take on something you aren't equipped or ready to pursue. Taking on debt to try to impress someone will leave you scrambling. Stick to what you are good at and say no to anyone pressuring you. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Sign up for something that interests you, and you'll discover how to turn what you learn or experience into something lucrative. A business trip or meeting will give you a platform to share your findings and offer your services. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Personal gain, physical improvements and rethinking the way you live and do things will encourage greater freedom and maneuverability to turn a negative in your life into a positive. Love and friendship are on the rise, and socializing will pay off. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Keep the communication flowing until you get the truth and feel confident that you can work with the information you receive. Ask an expert, older friend or relative with experience for input, and you'll gain insight into new possibilities. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Indulge in comfort or take up a pastime that excites you. Look for unique ways to make extra cash or invest and turn a profit. A change at home will give you access to more chill time with friends and family. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Taking baby steps will help you avoid unwanted fallout from someone who likes to do things differently. Planning your actions and gaining approval before you begin will make your life easier, and your results will be stellar. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Keep your thoughts and feelings to yourself. Giving away too much information will put you in a vulnerable spot. Pay more attention to health, finances and keeping your records straight. Romance will lead to commitment. Invest time and money in you. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are charismatic, intense and creative. You are imaginative and fun-loving.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	2				5	3		7
3		6		7			9	
	4				2			6
						8		4
	3						7	
2		7						
6			1				2	
	1			8		7		3
9		8	7				6	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/10

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

9	8	4	3	5	2	1	6	7
1	3	2	6	7	9	8	5	4
5	7	6	1	8	4	9	3	2
8	6	5	9	1	7	4	2	3
3	2	9	5	4	8	7	1	6
7	4	1	2	6	3	5	8	9
4	1	7	8	2	6	3	9	5
2	9	8	4	3	5	6	7	1
6	5	3	7	9	1	2	4	8

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

LIVING IN SOLITUDE IS CALMING Solution: 8 letters

C	L	P	S	M	A	E	R	D	F	Y	E	N	R	B
Q	I	I	A	O	E	F	N	O	R	T	O	A	E	R
W	U	T	F	R	R	E	C	T	N	I	A	P	S	E
E	Q	I	U	E	K	U	E	U	T	V	T	G	T	E
L	N	T	E	E	S	O	H	A	B	I	T	S	O	Z
L	A	L	E	T	P	T	C	P	O	T	T	E	R	Y
N	R	W	A	A	A	A	Y	P	P	A	H	K	E	C
E	T	R	P	N	V	T	R	L	D	E	O	I	I	A
S	X	A	L	E	R	R	I	E	E	R	B	H	P	V
S	G	G	N	V	A	U	E	D	H	C	B	O	N	I
G	R	J	O	U	W	C	O	F	E	T	Y	R	Ⓜ	R
H	O	M	E	J	A	M	E	J	L	M	A	Z	Ⓞ	P
Y	W	A	S	E	L	F	C	A	R	E	A	D	Ⓞ	O
R	T	S	L	R	K	O	O	B	L	K	C	E	Ⓓ	C
S	H	O	P	S	M	I	L	E	G	A	T	T	O	C

© 2022 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 11/10

Book, Breezy, Cottage, Cozy, Creativity, Deck, Dreams, Ease, Enjoy, Focus, Free, Goals, Growth, Habits, Happy, Hike, Hobby, Home, Jog, Journal, Learn, Lifestyle, Meditate, Mode, Mood, Nature, Paint, Park, Peace, Pier, Poetry, Pottery, Privacy, Quiet, Read, Reflect, Rejuvenate, Relax, Restore, Self-care, Shop, Smile, Star, Therapeutic, Tranquil, Vacation, Walk, Weekend, Wellness, Yoga

Yesterday's Answer: Meditation

The NEW **Treasury 50** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

Source: Suspended Kyrie Irving meets with Adam Silver

NEW YORK (AP)— Suspended Brooklyn Nets guard Kyrie Irving met with NBA Commissioner Adam Silver on Tuesday, a person with knowledge of the meeting said.

The Nets banned Irving for at least five games without pay on Thursday after he refused to say he had no antisemitic beliefs.

That came hours after Silver said Irving made a "reckless decision" to post on his Twitter feed a link to a film that contains antisemitic material and said he would be meeting with him within a week.

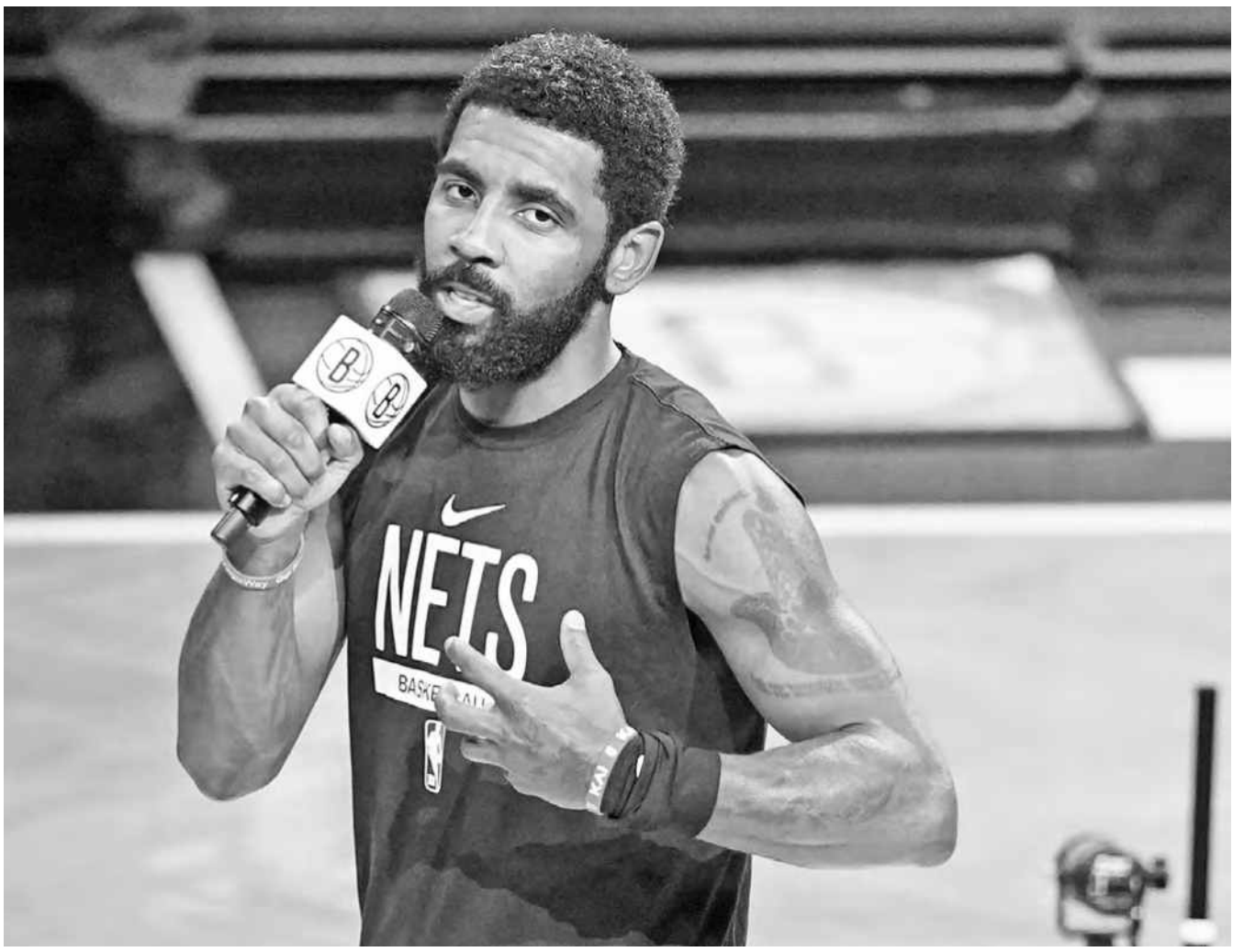
They finally did on Tuesday, the person told The Associated Press, speaking on anonymity because the meeting and its details were private.

Irving eventually deleted the tweet and issued an apology on Instagram, after failing to do so when he met with reporters earlier Thursday.

But by then, Silver said he was disappointed that it had taken so long for Irving to apologize, and that he hadn't denounced the material in "Hebrews to Negroes: Wake Up Black America."

Even after meeting with Silver, Irving has work to do to repair his relationship with the Nets. They were already angry enough by his refusal to get vaccinated against COVID-19, leaving him ineligible to play in home games most of last season, that they refused to give him a contract extension over the summer. This time, he will have to complete measures they said would be necessary before he could return to play.

Irving will miss his fourth game Wednesday against the New York Knicks, and the Nets begin a four-game road trip on the West Coast after that.



AP

Brooklyn Nets' Kyrie Irving speaks before the team's NBA basketball game against the New Orleans Pelicans on Oct. 19, 2022, in New York.

Irving temporarily loses shoe deal

Nike, meanwhile, hs suspended its relationship with Irving and canceled its plans to release his next signature shoe, the latest chapter in the ongoing fallout since the Brooklyn Nets guard tweeted a link to a film containing antisemitic material.

The shoe giant announced Friday night that it will halt its relationship with Irving, who has been suspended by the Nets for what the team called a repeated failure to "unequivocally say he has no antisemitic beliefs."

The Nets made that move Thursday, banning Irving without pay for at least five games, and a day later, Nike made its decision. Those actions followed widespread criticism — from, among many others, the Anti-Defamation League and NBA Commissioner Adam Silver.

"At Nike, we believe there is no place for hate speech and we condemn any form of antisemitism," the Beaverton, Oregon-based company said. "To that end, we've made the decision to suspend our relationship with Kyrie Irving effective immediately and will no longer launch the Kyrie 8."

Irving has had a signature line with Nike since 2014.

"We are deeply saddened and disappointed by the situation and its impact on everyone," Nike said.

Irving signed with Nike in 2011, shortly after becoming the No. 1 pick in that year's NBA draft. Irving's first signature shoe was released three years later, and the popularity of the Kyrie line led to him making a reported $11 million annually just from the Nike endorsement.

The Kyrie 8 was expected to be released in the next week. Previous models of his shoes were still for sale on the Nike website Friday night.

LeBron James of the Los Angeles Lakers, who won a title alongside Irving when they were Cleveland teammates in 2016, said his position is simple: Hate speech, in any form, can't be tolerated.

"There's no place in this world for it," James said. "Nobody can benefit from that and I believe what Kyrie did caused some harm to a lot of people."

James, who has been with Nike for the entirety of his 20-season NBA career, said he still has great fondness for Irving.

"We as humans, none of us are perfect," James said. "But I hope he understands how what he did and the actions that he took were just harmful to a lot of people."

Irving posted a tweet — which has since been deleted — last week with a link to the documentary "Hebrews to Negroes: Wake Up Black America," which includes Holocaust denial and conspiracy theories about Jews. In a contentious postgame interview session last Saturday, Irving defended his right to post what he wants.

The fallout only continued from there. The NBA put out a statement over the weekend that didn't name Irving but denounced all forms of hate speech. Fans wearing "Fight Antisemitism" shirts occupied some courtside seats at the Brooklyn-Indiana game on Monday night, a day after he took down the tweet. The Nets and coach Steve Nash parted ways Tuesday, a development that has been overshadowed by the Irving saga.

On Wednesday, Irving said he opposes all forms of hate, and he and the Nets each announced that they would each donate $500,000 toward groups that work to eradicate it. Silver then issued a new statement calling on Irving by name to apologize, and Irving refused to give a direct answer when asked Thursday if he has antisemitic beliefs.

That, evidently, was the last straw for the Nets, who suspended him. Hours later, Irving posted an apology on Instagram for not explaining the specific beliefs he agreed and disagreed with when he posted the documentary.

"To All Jewish families and Communities that are hurt and affected from my post, I am deeply sorry to have caused you pain, and I apologize," Irving wrote. "I initially reacted out of emotion to being unjustly labeled Anti-Semitic, instead of focusing on the healing process of my Jewish Brothers and Sisters that were hurt from the hateful remarks made in the Documentary."

A day later, Nike — which had also been criticized for not moving more swiftly — took action.

Irving becomes the second celebrity in less than two weeks to lose a major shoe deal over antisemitism. Adidas parted ways with Ye — the artist formerly known as Kanye West — late last month, a move the German company said would result in about $250 million in losses this year after stopping production of its line of Yeezy products as well as halting payments to Ye and his companies.

For weeks, Ye made antisemitic comments in interviews and on social media, including a Twitter post that he would soon go "death con 3 on JEWISH PEOPLE," an apparent reference to the U.S. defense readiness condition scale known as DEFCON.

Irving has expressed no shortage of controversial opinions during his career. He repeatedly questioned whether the Earth was round before eventually apologizing to science teachers. Last year, his refusal to get a COVID-19 vaccine led to him being banned from playing in most of the Nets' home games.

The Nets played at Washington on Friday, winning 128-86 without Irving. The 42-point win matched the fourth-largest in Nets franchise history.

Brooklyn general manager Sean Marks said earlier Friday that Irving's apology was a step forward, but many other steps will be required before he can resume playing.

"There is going to be some remedial steps and measures that have been put in place for him to obviously seek some counseling ... from dealing with some anti-hate and some Jewish leaders within our community," Marks said. "He's going to have to sit down with them, he's going to have to sit down with the organization after this, and we'll evaluate and see if this is the right opportunity to bring him back."

NBA BRIEFS

NBA All-Star player Dwight Howard headed to Taiwan

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)— Eight-time NBA All Star Dwight Howard is headed to Taiwan to play for the Taoyuan Leopards in the island's top division.

"I can't wait to see the fans, eat the food and have the best time ever ... and bring a championship," the 36-year-old center said in a social media post.

Alongside baseball, basketball is the most popular sport in Taiwan, with both girls and boys high school championships broadcast island-wide.

Howard has collected league records with a clutch of teams, notably the Orlando Magic, and signed a one-year contract with the Los Angles Lakers in 2021.

The Leopards are among six teams in the T-1 league, which features numerous players from the U.S. and Europe.

The club did not provide details of the deal with Howard.

Raptors' Siakam out at least 2 weeks with adductor strain

TORONTO (AP)—Toronto Raptors forward Pascal Siakam will miss at least two weeks because of a strained right adductor muscle, the team said Sunday.

Siakam, 28, was injured when he slipped in the third quarter of Friday's loss at Dallas. He was helped off the court and did not return.

An All Star in 2020, Siakam is averaging career-highs of 24.8 points, 9.3 rebounds and 7.7 assists this season. He has two triple-doubles in nine games.

Siakam was named to the All-NBA third team last season when he averaged 22.8 points and career-highs of 8.5 rebounds and 5.3 assists.

Toronto hosts Chicago on Sunday, the first of a home-and-home. The Raptors visit the Bulls on Monday.

Wizards' Beal enters health and safety protocols

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)— Bradley Beal has entered health and safety protocols and will miss the Washington Wizards' game at Charlotte on Sunday night.

The Wizards announced Beal's status Sunday. The team said he will return when he is cleared under current NBA guidelines.

Beal is averaging 21.6 points through nine games so far this season for Washington. After their game at Memphis, the Wizards are at Charlotte on Monday night before hosting Dallas on Thursday night.

Colts' Saturday hiring chided on diversity, fairness grounds

By ROB MAADDI
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

AP

Indianapolis Colts interim coach Jeff Saturday speaks as owner Jim Irsay listens during a news conference at the NFL football team's practice facility Monday, Nov. 7, 2022, in Indianapolis.

Even Jeff Saturday was shocked when Indianapolis Colts owner Jim Irsay called late Sunday night to offer him the head coaching position.

A former two-time All-Pro center who snapped the ball to Hall of Fame quarterback Peyton Manning for 12 seasons, Saturday surely knows his X's and O's.

But the TV analyst's only coaching experience was a three-year stint at Hebron Christian Academy in Georgia, where he led the team to a 20-16 record with three playoff appearances.

Irsay's decision stunned people internally and around the league, though his affinity for Saturday was known throughout the organization. Saturday played 13 seasons for the Colts, made the Pro Bowl six times, helped them win a Super Bowl and is a member of the team's Ring of Honor.

Critics immediately went after Irsay for hiring an inexperienced former player instead of elevating someone from the coaching staff, which is typical during in-season firings. Colts defensive coordinator Gus Bradley previously served as a head coach in Jacksonville from 2013-16. Senior defensive assistant John Fox spent 16 seasons as head coach in Carolina, Denver and Chicago, and led the Panthers and Broncos to Super Bowl appearances.

Former NFL quarterback and current ESPN analyst Robert Griffin III called Irsay's decision "a head-scratching slap in the face to every coach on that staff" in a post on Twitter.

Saturday's hiring also didn't sit well with the Fritz Pollard Alliance, which fights for equity and inclusion in pro football. The NFL has seven minority head coaches, including Carolina Panthers interim coach Steve Wilks.

"The Rooney Rule is the only universal hiring policy used by the NFL to promote fairness and diversity," The Alliance said in a statement. "However, (Monday's) news in Indianapolis illuminated a gap in the league's stated objective. If the spirit of the rule is to expand opportunities, we believe that it must be consistently applied, even in the hiring of interim positions."

Irsay and the Colts didn't have to follow the Rooney Rule requirements for interviewing minority candidates because Saturday replaced Frank Reich during the season. The team will have to fulfill those requirements after the season when seeking a permanent hire.

"We're following the Rooney Rule to a 'T.' I really look forward to the interview process at the end of the season," Irsay said.

This wasn't the first time Irsay went after Saturday, who is a paid consultant for the team and was working as an analyst at ESPN.

"Now understand, we've tried to hire Jeff a couple times," Colts general manager Chris Ballard said. "We tried to hire him in 2019 as the offensive line coach and we tried to hire him again this year — just didn't work out. The timing didn't work out. I spent a lot of time with Jeff — like I have with a few of the ex-players here, and it doesn't take long to figure out that he's got real leadership in him, real special in that regard. For this eight-game stretch and where we're at, we thought he was going to be a really good fit for us."

The Colts (3-5-1) are headed nowhere and Matt Ryan's benching for inexperienced and overwhelmed quarterback Sam Ehlinger indicates the team has prioritized draft positioning. Reich began each of his five seasons in Indianapolis with a different quarterback, so ensuring a top draft pick to select a potential franchise QB would be a wise strategy.

That leaves Saturday in a can't-lose position.

If he somehow finds a way to lead the Colts to a winning record or even a 4-4 mark over the last eight games, it would be quite an achievement given the state of the team.

If the Colts lose enough games to end up with one of the top QBs in the draft, Saturday would have helped set the team up for potential future success.

Irsay made a bold, outside-the-box move that opened him up for scrutiny and criticism. It's clear he doesn't care about public perception.

Cowboys' McCarthy senses emotions with Green Bay return near

FRISCO, Texas (AP)—Mike McCarthy put off questions about his return to Green Bay as long as possible.

When the Dallas Cowboys coach finally had to talk about his old coaching home, he interrupted with an expletive as a reporter prone to queries on X's and O's went with a touchy-feely one.

"You guys are trying to make me cry," McCarthy said, drawing hearty laughs. "Why don't you ask me a question about 12 personnel or something?"

Sorry, coach. Everybody wants to know what's going through the mind of the man who led the Packers to a Super Bowl title before an unhappy ending with a midseason firing almost eight years later.

"The exit, it left a dent, just to be honest, with our family," McCarthy said. "But it's been four years. We're so much better because of it. We've had time to process it all, and it's a little unique."

So is being a Super Bowl-winning coach in the NFL's smallest market, for a team that is publicly owned and has an annual shareholders meeting.

Vince Lombardi and Mike Holmgren, the other two title-winning coaches with streets named after them near Lambeau Field, left on their terms.

Not McCarthy.

He was in the midst of a second consecutive losing season in 2018 after reaching the playoffs nine times in 10 years, with four trips to the NFC championship game and the 31-25 victory over Pittsburgh to end the 2010 season in the Super Bowl at the home of the Cowboys.

McCarthy took a year off — staying in Green Bay, which he said he wouldn't necessarily recommend — and was ready to take over another iconic NFL franchise when Dallas owner Jerry Jones came calling in 2020.

The Cowboys had given Jason Garrett nine full seasons to try to end what is now a 26-year stretch without even reaching an NFC title game. Jones wanted somebody with that track record.

Now Jones will be in the visiting owner's suite Sunday, with his coach on the visiting sideline as the Cowboys (6-2) play the Packers (3-6) where McCarthy's wife, Jessica, was born and raised.

"Her father is kind of the gatekeeper, the history for Green Bay, kind of the archivist for the team," Jones said on his radio show this week. "And so, (McCarthy) lives pretty close to it.

"Secondly he's got all of those really great memories, and he's got some things that get under his skin a little bit I'm sure," Jones said. "You add all of that together, and this is going to be quite a personal visit for him to Green Bay."

McCarthy, who turns 59 three days before the game, isn't denying any of this. He's just struggling to talk about it.

Still, the coach says it's his job to address it with his players, and he's already done that.

"He says I know a lot of times throughout the journey that a lot of places bring you back to show you how much you've grown," safety Malik Hooker said. "This probably means a little more to him because we're at a point and place where his heart was. I definitely feel him and I for sure want to get the win for him."

Aaron Nagler, co-founder of a fan website called "Cheesehead TV," said he recalled a warm reception for a beloved Holmgren with Seattle in 1999, the year after he left the Packers.

Nagler, who says he's "fascinated" by how McCarthy will be received, envisions something between Holmgren and the vitriol aimed at quarterback Brett Favre with hated rival Minnesota in 2009.

"I do think there will be people who appreciate what he did and there will be people who are like, 'Good riddance, you bum,'" Nagler said. "That's the nature of fandom."

One reception seems clear — from Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers. Their apparently rocky relationship was the subject of much discussion before and after McCarthy's firing.

"I'm going to give him a big ol' hug, I can tell you that much," Rodgers said Tuesday on his weekly appearance on "The Pat McAfee Show" on YouTube and SiriusXM.

McCarthy said he never thought much about joining a small fraternity with Lombardi and Holmgren, and he sees many similarities between franchises that celebrate their history with strong alumni presences.

"They do a phenomenal job up there, no different than what Jerry does down here," McCarthy said. "To think that I've been the head coach of the Green Bay Packers and now the Dallas Cowboys, frankly I never dreamed of that growing up in Pittsburgh."

Pressed about how motivated he was to win, McCarthy smiled and said, "I really want to win the game. Is that enough?"

When the reporter with the touchy-feely question finally finished asking what McCarthy missed about Green Bay, the coach eventually bowed his head and tapped his fingers on the podium in silence, fighting back the tears.

"The people," he said. "Just the people."

Composed again a few minutes later after the topic finally turned to football, McCarthy knew he was down to one question in what he signaled would be the only day of the week he would discuss his return.

Would he walk down Mike McCarthy Way during the weekend?

"I just drive by once in a while to make sure the sign is still up."

Sunga shoots hole-in-one in Marianas Health Golf Classic

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

Emiri Sunga shot a rare hole-in-one in the 2022 Marianas Health Golf Classic last Oct. 29 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

The Guam golfer made a hole-in-one shot in the opening round of the afternoon tee time at the west course. She also collected $300 for closest to the pin in the aforementioned hole.

Sunga used her 3 wood to knock in the ace on the par 3 hole No. 17 to win $5,000, which was sponsored by Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc.

In the women's double peoria, first place went to Rose Rohringer and Nirimai Kobel for $1,000; second place went to Sherlyn Jones and Nana Liu for $500; and third place Florilyn Jones and Lydia Tan for $250.

In the men's double peoria, Ben Pelisamen and Kaegel Taitano won first place for $1,000; Joji Taguchi and Diego Benevente won second place for $500; and third place went to Ned Norita and Nathan Camacho for $250

The women's low gross, first place winner was Yinnu Cai and Young Hee Yoo with a score of 72 for $2,000; second place went to Emiri Sunga and Gina Cura with a score of 73 for $1,000; and third place went to Sae Hee Kim and Hyun Sook Lim with a score of 75 for $500.

The men's low gross first place went to Feng Chun Jin and Zhi Yun Li with a score of 60 for $2,000; second place went to Harry Nakamura and Franco Santos with a score of 62 for $1,000; and third place went to Sun Ho Kang and Joung Hoon Park with a score of 64 for $500.

Optional plays of closest to the pin for hole No. 3 of $250 went to Jeon Seo Yeon at 57 inches and Frank Sablan at 32 inches; $250 went to Jin Feng Chun at 93.6 inches; and aggressive drive of $300 went to Diego Benavente at 36 inches.

Funds raised from the tournament, which attracted a total of 154 golfers, went to support the Antonio T. Lizama Scholarship Program, which awards local students seeking higher education in the healthcare field to help support our health force community.

"On behalf of Marianas Health and its subsidiary companies, Mr. George Cruz, the board of directors, and the staff and management would like to extend their utmost thank you, un dangkalu na si yu'us ma'ase, ghillisow to all the players and supporters who participated in the 2022 Marianas Health Golf Classic."

The 2022 Marianas Health Golf Classic would not have been possible without the support and generous donation from numerous sponsors—hole-in-one sponsors Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Joeten Motors, and Sagan Hinemlo Family Clinic, gold sponsors MARPAC, IT&E, and Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. Silver Sponsors: Marianas Variety and Power 99, bronze sponsors: Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, KWAW, Latte Built, Allied Medical Supply, Marianas Health Home Care & Hospice, Pacific Wellness Center, H.A.F.A. Initiative, and Paradiso Resort & Spa, and event sponsors All-Star Sporting Goods, Century Insurance Company, D&Q, First Hawaiian Bank, Hyatt Regency Saipan, McDonald's of Saipan, Herman's Bakery, Saipan Advertising, Cargo Express, RNV Construction, Samson, and Saipan Ice.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Emiri Sunga from Guam won the hole-in-one prize of $5,000 in the 2022 Marianas Health Golf Classic last Oct. 29 at the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort

KAGMAN

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her game-high 8 points in the final 20 minutes of action to lift Dandan to the win.

Aside from Camacho's scoring prowess, Dandan also got 6 points and 5 points from Raenna Ramarui and Katie Camacho, respectively.

San Jose, which dropped to an even 1-1 record, was led by the 9 points of Irish Pagarao and the 8 points of Mary Kay Alferos.

Tanapag, meanwhile, ran roughshod over a hapless San Vicente crew, 96-17, to also remain unscathed at 2-0 in the U18 boys division.

It was all over but the shouting as Tanapag immediately channeled their inner warrior spirit in the game's first few minutes.

With all of the players from Tanapag clicking on all cylinders, San Vicente didn't have a reply and were down 10-55 at halftime.

It would go from bad to worse for the Sunrisers in the second half, as they would only add 7 more points to their total while surrendering 41 more points to Tanapag in the blowout game.

Merrick Toves scored 16 points in the rout with Johnkae Raquepo, Nobet Hocog, Frankie Satur, and Gino Asauo chipping in 12 markers apiece.

Nolan Cultura was the highpoint man for San Vicente with 6 points, while Franklin Errich and Palino Hilario added 3 points apiece for the 0-2 team.

The Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation coordinates the 2022 Marianas Village Pride Basketball League with help from the Tan Siu Lin Foundation.

MARK RABAGO
Kagman improved to 2-0 while dealing Finasisu a loss in its first game in the U13 boys division of the 2022 Marianas Village Pride Basketball League last Saturday at the Gillette Multi-Purpose Gymnasium in Gualo Rai.

First Game

Kagman 25 – Camacho 9, Defang 6, Matsumoto 4, Tenorio 3, Enriquez 2, Pineda 1, Pamgelinan 1.

Finasisu 19 – Pangelinan 5, Duenas 4, Teregeyo 4, Saralu 4, John 2.

Scoring by halves: 13-11, 26-19.

Second Game

Dandan 35 – C. Camacho 8, Ramarui 6, Deleon Guerrero 5, K. Camacho 4, Rangamar 4, Labausa 2.

San Jose 22 – Pagarao 8, Alferos 8, Lee 2, Saablan, Pablo 1.

Scoring by halves: 9-7, 35-22.

Third Game

Tanapag 96 – Toves 16, Raquepo 12, Hocog 12, Satur 12, G. Asauo 12, H. Asauo 10, Guilas 6, Abendan 6, Terlaje 6, Enriquez 6, Hirochi 2.

San Vicente 17 – Cultura 6, Hilario 3, Errich 3, Liv 2, Imperial 2, Aquino 1.

Scoring by halves: 55-10, 96-17.

SUFA

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but Tokahao rallied in the last inning to bring in 11 runs and lengthen their lead, not giving Peleliu a chance for a comeback.

Jeff Cruz of Tokahao hit the lone home run for the team in the last inning, while Peleliu's Elmer Sablan hit a homerun in the third inning.

Tokahao is third place in the rankings at 11-5, while Peleliu went below .500 at 7-8.

Hagu La'mun 11, Asahi 5

Hagu La'mun outlasted Asahi, 11-5.

Despite no runs in the last inning for La'mun, it was enough to secure the win as Asahi was only able to score five runs in.

Hagu La'mun improved to 11-5, while Asahi is even at 8-8.

Ngaraard Redmen 18, Aimeliik 5

Ngaraard Redmen outscored Aimeliik, 18-5.

Aimeliik had two scoreless innings, which was enough for the Redmen to take advantage of as by the end of the fourth inning, the Redmen were already up 18-5, which was the final score.

The Redmen are at 9-6 and Aimeliik are in the trenches with three wins and 12 losses.

BUCO

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respective races. He also thanked all 74 cyclists who took part in the race.

"On behalf of SULC we would like to say thank you so very much for always supporting our year end 2022 bike race event, congratulations to all winners," he said.

Source: Suspended Kyrie Irving meets with Adam Silver

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Sports

Sunga shoots hole-in-one in Marianas Health Golf Classic

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Sufa stays on A game in Belau Softball

LEIGH GASES
Sufa's Paul Salalila swings at the ball during a game in the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League at the Dandan Softball Field.

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

Sufa stayed on their A game and run-ruled Momma Charo, 25-5, last Sunday in the continuation of the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League at the Dandan Softball Field.

In the very first inning, Sufa already collected eight runs, while Momma Charo had none.

Momma Charo pitcher Leo Bobai managed to control them in the second inning with Sufa putting only one run in, but Sufa immediately gained traction again in the last two innings, with three batters hitting the ball out of the park.

Momma Charo had no chance of redemption as they only put up four more runs, with the game ending in the fourth inning, 25-5.

Sufa is on top of the standings with a 12-4 win-loss card, while Momma Charo dropped to 6-10.

Man Amigos 28, Salty Boys 1

In another run-ruled game, Man Amigos defeated Salty Boys, 28-1.

Man Amigos obliterated the ball in the third inning as they brought in 11 runs, while at this point, Salty Boys was only able to score one run.

By the end of the last inning, the Boys' goose eggs on the board were unbroken, as they fell to Man Amigos, 28-1.

Man Amigos improved to 11-4, half a game back of league-leader Sufa, while Salty Boys are still winless after 16 games.

Tokahao 24, Peleliu 11

Tokahao walloped Peleliu, 24-11.

Pelelliu put up a good fight

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Kagman undefeated in U13 village hoops

MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Kagman notched its second win in as many outings after beating debuting Finasisu, 26-19, in the U13 boys division of the 2022 Marianas Village Pride Basketball League last Saturday at the Gillette Multi-Purpose Gymnasium in Gualo Rai.

Both teams fought nearly to a standstill in the first 20 minutes of the ballgame, 13-11, but Kagman lived up to their A - Y - U - Y - U spirit in the final 20 minutes to eke out the 7-point victory.

MARK RABAGO
A Kagman player tests the defense of a Finasisu player in their U13 boys game of the 2022 Marianas Village Pride Basketball League last Saturday at the Gillette Multi-Purpose Gymnasium in Gualo Rai.

Ione Camacho paced Kagman with 9 points with Dany Defang tossing in 6 points for support. Finasisu was led by the 5 points of Jhun Pangelinan with three of his teammates adding 4 points apiece.

In the second game, Dandan also notched its second straight victory after breaking free from a tight contest against San Jose in the second half, 35-22, in the women's division.

Both teams were evenly matched in the opening half with Dandan only getting away with a 9-7 advantage at the break.

Veteran Connie Camacho, however, caught fire in the second half, unloading all

See KAGMAN on Page 19

Buco roars to road race win

MARK RABAGO
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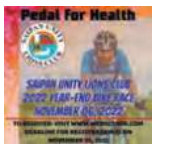
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Joel Buco dominated the long course road bike race of last Saturday's Saipan Unity Lions Club's 2022 Year-end Bike Race.



The 49-year-old conquered the 27-kilometer course from Banzai Cliff to the Mobil gas station in Tanapag to the Million Gallon Turnaround to Suicide Cliff and Bird Island Lookout before returning to Banzai Cliff in 57:18.

"Thank you very much to the Saipan Unity Lions Club and the ones who manned the water stops. I also want to thank my sponsors for their continued support. I hope the Lions Club will be able to help a lot of people with the funds they raised from this event," he said in a social media post in Filipino.

Renren Gaviola came in second with a time of 59:02, while Jay R. Barrios completed the Top 3 in 1:02.23.

Christian Lam, meanwhile, followed up his win in the Rotaract 5K Halloween run by nipping Hernando Cristobal in the long course mountain bike race.

Lam, who is on Saipan for vacation, pedaled to the finish line in 1:06.46 to barely beat out Cristobal's 1:06.47. Mike Aparte finished third in 1:11.19.

In the women's division, 2022 Pacific Mini Games CNMI National Triathlon teammates Robyn Spaeth and Heather Brook finished 1-2 in the road bike race after the pair completed the course in 1:04.53 and 1:07.19, respectively. Jay Anne Felipe was third in 1:07.23.

Saipan Unity Lions Club's 2022 Year-end Bike Race coordinator Wilfredo Barbo congratulated Buco and company for winning their

See BUCO on Page 19